

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

FILED SENATE
Mar 25, 2025
S.B. 613
PRINCIPAL CLERK

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SENATE BILL DRS45177-NL-44

Short Title: Number of Medicaid Standard Plan Contracts. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Sawrey (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ADJUST THE NUMBER OF MEDICAID STANDARD BENEFIT PLAN
3 CONTRACTS AWARDED DURING FUTURE AWARD CYCLES.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 SECTION 1. G.S. 108D-1 reads as rewritten:

6 "§ 108D-1. Definitions.

7 The following definitions apply in this Chapter:

8 ...

9 (6e) Commercial plan. – As defined in G.S. 58-93-5.

10 ...

11 (31e) Provider-led entity or PLE. – As defined in G.S. 58-93-5.

12"

13 SECTION 2. G.S. 108D-45 reads as rewritten:

14 "§ 108D-45. Number and nature of contracts for standard benefit plans.

15 (a) ~~The~~ For the initial standard benefit plan contracts required under G.S. 108D-65(6),
16 the number and nature of the contracts for standard benefit plans required under G.S. 108D-65(6)
17 those contracts shall be as follows:

18 (1) Four contracts between the Division of Health Benefits and PHPs to provide
19 coverage to Medicaid recipients statewide.

20 (2) Up to 12 contracts between the Division of Health Benefits and PLEs for
21 coverage of regions specified by the Division of Health Benefits pursuant to
22 G.S. 108D-65(2). Regional contracts shall be in addition to the four statewide
23 contracts required under subdivision (1) of this section. Each regional contract
24 shall provide coverage throughout the entire region for the Medicaid services
25 required by G.S. 108D-35. A PLE may bid for more than one regional
26 contract, provided that the regions are contiguous.

27 (3) Repealed by Session Laws 2023-134, s. 9E.22(i), effective October 3, 2023.

28 (4) Initial capitated PHP contracts may be awarded on staggered terms of three to
29 five years in duration to ensure against gaps in coverage that may result from
30 termination of a contract by the PHP or the State.

31 (b) For any standard benefit contracts required under G.S. 108D-65(6) that are awarded
32 subsequent to the initial standard benefit plan contracts, the number and nature of those contracts
33 shall be as follows:

34 (1) Four contracts between the Division of Health Benefits and commercial plans
35 to provide coverage to Medicaid recipients statewide.



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- 1 (2) Up to four contracts between the Division of Health Benefits and PLEs for
2 coverage of regions specified by the Division of Health Benefits pursuant to
3 G.S. 108D-65(2) or for statewide coverage, in accordance with all of the
4 following:
- 5 a. The contracts under this subdivision shall be in addition to the four
6 statewide contracts required under subdivision (1) of this subsection.
- 7 b. Each regional contract under this subdivision shall provide coverage
8 throughout the entire region for the Medicaid services required by
9 G.S. 108D-35.
- 10 c. A PLE may bid for more than one regional contract, provided that the
11 regions are contiguous.
- 12 d. If less than four PLEs submit a timely response meeting the minimum
13 requirements of the RFP to procure standard benefit plan contracts, as
14 determined by the Division of Health Benefits, then all PLEs that
15 submitted a timely response meeting the minimum requirements of the
16 RFP shall be awarded a standard benefit plan contract, either regional
17 or statewide, based on the area proposed to be served in the RFP
18 response.
- 19 e. If four or more PLEs submit a timely response meeting the minimum
20 requirements of the RFP to procure standard benefit plan contracts, as
21 determined by the Division of Health Benefits, then the Division of
22 Health Benefits shall award four standard benefit plan contracts to
23 PLEs, either regional or statewide, based on the area proposed to be
24 served in the RFP response."

25 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.