

SESSION OF 2010

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2491

As Amended by House Committee on
Insurance

Brief*

HB 2491, as amended, would amend the Kansas Uninsurable Health Insurance Plan Act (the Act governing administration of the State High Risk Pool) to add coverage of an individual under the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), authorized by Title XXI of the Social Security Act, to the list of recognized creditable health insurance coverages.

A technical amendment also is made to the definition of "federally defined eligible individual."

Background

The bill was introduced at the request of the Kansas Insurance Department whose representative indicated that the Department had been asked by officials with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) during a review process last year to make two technical changes to the statutes governing the state high risk pool (Kansas Uninsurable Health Insurance Plan Act). The creditable coverage provision requested, the representative noted, does not represent a policy change in the way creditable coverage is offered to eligible high risk pool applicants; additionally, the Department has been informed by Benefit Management, Inc. (third party administrator for the Pool) that the insertion of "if" into the federal definition (COBRA eligibility) will not represent a substantive change in eligibility requirements of federally qualified individuals. There were no other proponents and no opponents present at the time of the Committee hearing.

The House Committee on Insurance recommended a technical amendment to the definition of "federally defined eligible individual." The amendment was suggested by the Revisor.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the original bill states that the Kansas Health Policy Authority (KHPA) and the Kansas Department on Insurance indicate that passage of the bill would have no fiscal effect on their operations. KHPA also states that both of the managed care providers that administer SCHIP currently provide certificates of creditable coverage, so passage of this bill would result in no operational change for the providers.