

As Amended by Senate Committee

Session of 2025

SENATE BILL No. 271

By Committee on Ways and Means

2-17

1 AN ACT concerning the state children's health insurance program; relating
2 to eligibility; updating income requirements therefor; amending K.S.A.
3 38-2001 and repealing the existing section.
4

5 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

6 Section 1. K.S.A. 38-2001 is hereby amended to read as follows: 38-
7 2001. (a) The department of health and environment shall develop and
8 submit a plan consistent with federal guidelines established under section
9 4901 of public law 105-33-~~t~~, 42 U.S.C. § 1397aa et seq.~~;~~, title XXI).

10 (b) The plan developed under subsection (a) shall be a capitated
11 managed care plan covering Kansas children from zero to 19 years ~~which~~
12 ~~of age that:~~

13 (1) Contains benefit levels at least equal to those for the early and
14 periodic screening, diagnosis and treatment program;

15 (2) provides for presumptive eligibility for children where applicable;

16 (3) provides continuous eligibility for 12 months once a formal
17 determination is made that a child is eligible subject to subsection (e);

18 (4) has ~~performance-based~~ *performance-based* contracting with
19 measurable outcomes indicating age appropriate utilization of plan
20 services ~~to include, including~~, but not limited to, such measurable services
21 as immunizations, vision, hearing and dental exams, emergency room
22 utilization, annual physical exams and asthma;

23 (5) shall use the same prior authorization standards and requirements
24 as used for health care services under medicaid to further the goal of
25 seamlessness of coverage between the two programs;

26 (6) shall provide targeted low-income children, as defined under
27 section 4901 of public law 105-33-~~t~~, 42 U.S.C. § 1397aa; et seq.~~;~~,
28 coverage subject to appropriations; and

29 (7) shall provide coverage, subject to appropriation of funds and
30 eligibility requirements, for children residing in a household having a
31 gross household income ~~(A) for 2009, at or under 225% of the 2008~~
32 ~~federal poverty income guidelines and (B) for 2010 and subsequent years,~~
33 ~~at or under 250% of the 2008 federal poverty income guidelines;~~ The
34 participants receiving coverage shall contribute to the payment for such
35 coverage through a sliding-fee scale based upon ability to pay as
36 established by rules and regulations of the secretary of health and

1 environment; and

2 (8) contains a provision which requires the newly enrolled
3 participants with a family income over 200% of the federal poverty
4 income guidelines to wait at least 8 months before participating in this
5 program, if such participants previously had comprehensive health benefit
6 coverage through an individual policy or a health benefit plan provided by
7 any health insurer as defined in K.S.A. 40-4602, and amendments thereto.
8 This waiting period provision shall not apply when the prior coverage
9 ended due to loss of employment other than the voluntary termination,
10 change to a new employer that does not provide an option for dependent
11 coverage, discontinuation of health benefits to all employees, expiration of
12 COBRA coverage period or any other situations where the prior coverage
13 ended due to reasons unrelated to the availability of this program. **Rules**
14 **and regulations adopted by the secretary shall establish a sliding-fee**
15 **scale that charges per child covered under the plan and the secretary**
16 **shall not adopt rules and regulations that establish a sliding-fee scale**
17 **that charges per family; and**

18 (8) provides coverage to pregnant Kansas children provided that the
19 secretary requests and receives verification of such pregnancy.

20 (c) The secretary of health and environment is authorized to contract
21 with entities authorized to transact health insurance business in this state to
22 implement the health insurance coverage plan pursuant to subsection (a)
23 providing for several plan options to enrollees which are coordinated with
24 federal and state child health care programs, except that when contracting
25 to provide managed mental health care services the secretary of health and
26 environment shall assure that contracted entities demonstrate the ability to
27 provide a full array of mental health services in accordance with the early
28 and periodic screening, diagnosis and treatment plan. The secretary of
29 health and environment shall not develop a request for proposal process
30 which excludes community mental health centers from the opportunity to
31 bid for managed mental health care services.

32 (d) When developing and implementing the plan in subsection (a), the
33 secretary of health and environment to the extent authorized by law:

34 (1) Shall include provisions that encourage contracting insurers to
35 utilize and coordinate with existing community health care institutions and
36 providers;

37 (2) may work with public health care providers and other community
38 resources to provide educational programs promoting healthy lifestyles
39 and appropriate use of the plan's health services;

40 (3) shall plan for outreach and maximum enrollment of eligible
41 children through cooperation with local health departments, schools, child
42 care facilities and other community institutions and providers;

43 (4) shall provide for a simplified enrollment plan;

1 (5) shall provide cost sharing as allowed by law;
2 (6) shall not count the caring program for children, the Kansas health
3 insurance association plan or any charity health care plan as insurance
4 under subsection (e)(1);

5 (7) may provide for payment of health insurance premiums, including
6 contributions to a health savings account if applicable, and, in conjunction
7 with an employer sponsored insurance premium assistance plan, may
8 provide that supplemental benefits be purchased outside of the capitated
9 managed care plan, if it is determined cost effective, taking into account
10 the number of children to be served and the benefits to be provided;

11 (8) may provide that prescription drugs, transportation services and
12 dental services are purchased outside of the capitated managed care plan to
13 improve the efficiency, accessibility and effectiveness of the program; and

14 (9) shall include a provision that requires any individual to be a
15 citizen or an alien lawfully admitted to the United States for purposes of
16 establishing eligibility for benefits under the plan and to present
17 satisfactory documentary evidence of citizenship or lawful admission of
18 the individual. The criteria for determining whether the documentation is
19 satisfactory shall be no more restrictive than the criteria used by the social
20 security administration to determine citizenship. A document issued by a
21 federally-recognized Indian tribe evidencing membership or enrollment in,
22 or affiliation with, such tribe, such as a tribal enrollment card or certificate
23 of degree of Indian blood shall be satisfactory documentary evidence of
24 citizenship or lawful admission.

25 (e) ~~A child shall not be eligible for coverage and shall lose coverage
26 under the plan developed under subsection (a) of K.S.A. 38-2001, and
27 amendments thereto, if such child's family has not paid the enrollee's
28 applicable share of any premium due. If the family pays all of the
29 delinquent premiums owed during the year, such child will again be
30 eligible for coverage for the remaining months of the continuous eligibility
31 period. If a family is otherwise eligible for coverage and pays all of the
32 delinquent premiums owed, such child will again be eligible for
33 coverage at the time of renewal.~~

34 (f) The plan developed under section 4901 of public law 105-334, 42 U.S.C. § 1397aa et seq., and amendments thereto) is not an entitlement
35 program. The availability of the plan benefits shall be subject to funds
36 appropriated. The secretary of health and environment shall not utilize
37 waiting lists; but shall monitor costs of the program and make necessary
38 adjustments to stay within the program's appropriations.

39 (g) Eligibility and benefits under the plan prescribed by
40 subsection (b)(7) are not and shall not be construed to be entitlements, are
41 for legal residents of the state of Kansas and are subject to availability of
42 state and federal funds and to any state and federal requirements and the

1 provisions of appropriation acts. If the secretary of health and environment
2 determines that the available federal funds and the state funds appropriated
3 are insufficient to sustain coverage for the income eligibility levels
4 prescribed by subsection (b)(7), a lower income level shall be adopted and
5 implemented by the secretary of health and environment, within the limits
6 of appropriations available therefor, and all such changes shall be
7 published by the secretary of health and environment in the Kansas
8 register.

9 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 38-2001 is hereby repealed.

10 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
11 publication in the statute book.