

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2127

Introduced by Assembly Member Nestande

February 18, 2010

An act to add Section 14133.67 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to Medi-Cal.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2127, as introduced, Nestande. Medi-Cal: nonemergency transportation services: broker pilot program.

Existing law establishes the Medi-Cal program, administered by the State Department of Health Care Services, under which basic health care services, including nonemergency medical transportation services, are provided to qualified low-income persons.

This bill would require the department to establish a 2-year pilot program in at least 3 consenting counties to evaluate a nonemergency medical transportation model in which the state would contract with a broker to manage the provision of nonemergency medical transportation services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

This bill would require the department to monitor the pilot program, evaluate the outcomes and savings, and provide the fiscal committees of the Legislature with a report on its findings and recommendations. If the department determines the pilot program to be cost effective, the bill would authorize the department to implement the program statewide at any time and continue operation of the program indefinitely.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 14133.67 is added to the Welfare and
2 Institutions Code, to read:
3 14133.67. (a) For purposes of this section, “nonemergency
4 medical transportation broker model” means an arrangement in
5 which the state contracts with a broker to provide services ranging
6 from the management of the administrative tasks of screening
7 transport requests to the management of the full scope of the
8 nonemergency medical transportation benefit for purposes of this
9 chapter.
10 (b) The department shall establish a two-year pilot program to
11 evaluate a nonemergency medical transportation broker model.
12 (c) The department shall select at least three consenting counties
13 to participate in the two-year pilot program. The counties the
14 department selects shall represent both rural and urban areas.
15 (d) The department shall monitor the two-year pilot program,
16 evaluate the outcomes and savings, and provide the fiscal
17 committees of the Legislature with a report on its findings and
18 recommendations. If the department determines the pilot program
19 is cost effective, it may implement the program statewide at any
20 time and continue operation of the program indefinitely.
21 (e) Notwithstanding Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section
22 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code,
23 the department may implement, interpret, or make specific, this
24 section by means of written directives without taking further
25 regulatory action.

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