

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 72

Introduced by Assembly Members Bonta and Atkins

December 18, 2014

An act to add Article 5.5 (commencing with Section 14184) to Chapter 7 of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to Medi-Cal, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 72, as introduced, Bonta. Medi-Cal: demonstration project.

Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Care Services and under which qualified low-income persons receive health care benefits. The Medi-Cal program is, in part, governed and funded by federal Medicaid provisions. Existing law provides for a demonstration project under the Medi-Cal program until October 31, 2015, to implement specified objectives, including better care coordination for seniors and persons with disabilities and maximization of opportunities to reduce the number of uninsured individuals.

This bill would require the State Department of Health Care Services to submit an application to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for a waiver to implement a demonstration project that, among other things, continues the state's momentum and successes in innovation achieved under the demonstration project described above. The bill would require the department to consult with interested stakeholders and the Legislature in developing the waiver application. The bill would provide that the department only implement the waiver or demonstration project upon submittal of an implementation plan to

the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature at least 60 days prior to any appropriation.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote: 2/3. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

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

1 SECTION 1. Article 5.5 (commencing with Section 14184) is
2 added to Chapter 7 of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and
3 Institutions Code, to read:

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5 Article 5.5. Renewal of Health Care Coordination,
6 Improvement, and Long-Term Cost Containment Waiver or
7 Demonstration Project
8

9 14184. (a) The department shall submit an application to the
10 federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for a waiver
11 to implement a demonstration project that does all of the following:

12 (1) Furthers the delivery of high-quality and cost-efficient care
13 for Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

14 (2) Ensures the long-term viability of the delivery system
15 following the expansion of Medi-Cal eligibility under the federal
16 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

17 (3) Continues California’s momentum and successes in
18 innovation achieved under the 2010 “Bridge to Reform” Waiver.

19 (b) In developing the waiver application, the department shall
20 consult with interested stakeholders and the Legislature.

21 (c) The department shall only implement the waiver or
22 demonstration project upon submittal of an implementation plan
23 to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature
24 at least 60 days prior to any appropriation.

25 SEC. 2. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the
26 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within
27 the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into
28 immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

- 1 In order to make changes to state-funded health care programs
- 2 at the earliest possible time, it is necessary that this act take effect
- 3 immediately.

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