

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 23, 2006

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 26, 2005

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 4, 2005

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005—06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 525

Introduced by Assembly Member Chu

February 16, 2005

An act to add Section 12698.02 to the Insurance Code, and to amend Section 14005.30 of, and to add Section 14148.033 to, the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to the Insurance Code, relating to health care.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 525, as amended, Chu. Health care: *Access for Infants and Mothers Program*.

Existing law establishes the Access for Infants and Mothers (AIM) Program, administered by the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board, to provide health insurance care coverage for certain eligible persons who pay a subscriber contribution. The AIM Program provides coverage, at a minimum, to subscribers during one pregnancy, and for 60 days thereafter, and to children less than 2 years of age who were born of a pregnancy covered under this program to a woman enrolled in the program before July 1, 2004.

This bill would prohibit the board from imposing ~~3 requirements as conditions~~ *a written verification of pregnancy requirement as a condition* of eligibility for the AIM Program.

~~Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Services, pursuant to~~

~~which medical benefits are provided to public assistance recipients and certain other low-income persons:~~

~~Existing law requires the department, to the extent that federal financial participation is available, to provide Medi-Cal benefits to eligible individuals who meet certain income and resource standards, including to individuals eligible through the exercise of options under federal law made available to and exercised by the state.~~

~~This bill would require the department, to the extent that federal financial participation is available, to provide for the eligibility of pregnant women beginning in the first trimester of pregnancy. The bill would require, if a federal waiver or federal approval is necessary, the department to submit a request for the waiver or approval by March 1, 2006.~~

~~Existing law requires the department, to the extent that federal financial participation is available, to exercise its option under federal law to expand eligibility for Medi-Cal by establishing the amount of countable resources individuals or families are allowed to retain at the same amount medically needy individuals and families are allowed to retain, with an exception for a family of one.~~

~~This bill would, by March 1, 2006, require the department, to the extent federal financial participation is available, to exercise an option under federal law, if one exists, to exempt pregnant women from any asset standard, including an asset standard under this resource standard, or to seek a federal waiver if a federal option does not exist.~~

~~Existing law requires the State Department of Health Services to implement, as a Medi-Cal program benefit, a program to provide comprehensive clinical family planning services to any person who has a family income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level, as revised annually, and who is otherwise eligible to receive these services, to be known as the Family Planning, Access, Care, and Treatment (Family PACT) Waiver Program.~~

~~This bill would provide that certain individuals who are, or who would be, but for being pregnant at the time of application, eligible for Family PACT Waiver Program benefits shall be deemed to be eligible under certain circumstances for pregnancy-related care and breast and cervical cancer screening and treatment, to the extent federal financial participation is available, and for diagnostic and other treatment for certain other cancers that threaten reproductive capability.~~

~~This bill would also provide that any individual who has undergone screening under these provisions who would be eligible for Family~~

~~PACT Waiver Program benefits, but for an income in excess of 200% of the federal poverty level, and who meets certain requirements, shall be deemed to be eligible for the AIM program.~~

~~This bill would require the department to develop and implement, for purposes of implementing these provisions related to Family Pact Waiver Program benefits, an enrollment system, and a card to be known as the Health Access Programs Card, by July 1, 2006.~~

~~Under existing law, counties are responsible for determining eligibility for benefits under the Medi-Cal program.~~

~~By revising eligibility standards for the receipt of benefits under the Medi-Cal program, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.~~

~~Under existing law, certain dental services are covered Medi-Cal benefits.~~

~~This bill would declare that the Legislature has appropriated money in the Budget Act of 2001 and each subsequent Budget Act, for the provision under the Medi-Cal program of nonemergency benefits for the prevention and treatment of dental and periodontal disease for all beneficiaries during pregnancy to prevent premature deliveries and low birthweights. The bill would require the department to immediately implement the provision of these services by informing Denti-Cal and other Medi-Cal providers through provider bulletins that these benefits are included for all pregnant beneficiaries. The bill would provide that the implementation of this provision shall not be delayed pending adoption of administrative regulations.~~

~~The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.~~

~~This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.~~

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

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 12698.02 is added to the Insurance
- 2 Code, to read:

1 12698.02. The board shall not impose ~~any of the following~~ as
2 a condition of eligibility for the ~~AIM Program~~: *program*
3 (a) ~~A~~ a written verification of pregnancy requirement.

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**All matter omitted in this version of the bill
appears in the bill as amended in Assembly,
April 26, 2005 (JR11)**