

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 206

To amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to provide for improved data collection and evaluations of State Children's Health Insurance Programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 19, 1999

Mr. MOYNIHAN (for himself and Mr. CHAFEE) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to provide for improved data collection and evaluations of State Children's Health Insurance Programs, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the "CHIP Data and Eval-
5 uation Improvement Act of 1999."

1 **SEC. 2. FUNDING FOR RELIABLE ANNUAL STATE-BY-STATE**
 2 **ESTIMATES ON THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN**
 3 **WHO DO NOT HAVE HEALTH INSURANCE COV-**
 4 **ERAGE.**

5 Section 2108 of the Social Security Act (42
 6 U.S.C.1397hh) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 7 lowing:

8 “(c) ADJUSTMENT TO CURRENT POPULATION SUR-
 9 VEY TO INCLUDE STATE-BY-STATE DATA RELATING TO
 10 CHILDREN WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Com-
 12 merce shall make appropriate adjustments to the an-
 13 nual Current Population Survey conducted by the
 14 Bureau of the Census in order to produce statis-
 15 tically reliable annual State data on the number of
 16 low-income children who do not have health insur-
 17 ance coverage, so that real changes in the
 18 uninsurance rates of children can reasonably be de-
 19 tected. The Current Population Survey should
 20 produce data under this subsection that categorizes
 21 such children by family income, age, and race or eth-
 22 nicity. The adjustments made to produce such data
 23 shall include, where appropriate, expanding the sam-
 24 ple size used in the State sampling units, expanding
 25 the number of sampling units in a State, and an ap-
 26 propriate verification element.

1 “(2) APPROPRIATION.—Out of any money in
 2 the Treasury of the United States not otherwise ap-
 3 propriated, there are appropriated \$10,000,000 for
 4 fiscal year 2000 and each fiscal year thereafter for
 5 the purpose of carrying out this subsection.”.

6 **SEC. 3. FUNDING FOR CHILDREN’S HEALTH CARE ACCESS**
 7 **AND UTILIZATION STATE-BY-STATE DATA.**

8 Section 2108 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
 9 1397hh), as amended by section 2, is amended by adding
 10 at the end the following:

11 “(d) COLLECTION OF CHILDREN’S HEALTH CARE
 12 ACCESS AND UTILIZATION STATE-LEVEL DATA.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting
 14 through the National Center for Health Statistics
 15 (in this subsection referred to as the ‘Center’), shall
 16 collect data on children’s health insurance through
 17 the State and Local Area Integrated Telephone Sur-
 18 vey (SLAITS) for the 50 States and the District of
 19 Columbia. Sufficient data shall be collected so as to
 20 provide reliable, annual, State-by-State information
 21 on the health care access and utilization of children
 22 in low-income households, and to allow for compari-
 23 sons between demographic subgroups categorized
 24 with respect to family income, age, and race or eth-
 25 nicity.

1 “(2) SURVEY DESIGN AND CONTENT.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out para-
3 graph (1), the Secretary, acting through the
4 Center—

5 “(i) shall obtain input from appro-
6 priate sources, including States, in design-
7 ing the survey and making content deci-
8 sions; and

9 “(ii) at the request of a State, may
10 collect additional data to assist with a
11 State’s evaluation of the program estab-
12 lished under this title.

13 “(B) REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS OF ADDI-
14 TIONAL DATA.—A State shall reimburse the
15 Center for services provided under subpara-
16 graph (A)(ii).

17 “(3) APPROPRIATION.—Out of any money in
18 the Treasury of the United States not otherwise ap-
19 propriated, there are appropriated \$9,000,000 for
20 fiscal year 2000 and each fiscal year thereafter for
21 the purpose of carrying out this subsection.”.

1 **SEC. 4. FEDERAL EVALUATION OF STATE CHILDREN'S**
2 **HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAMS.**

3 Section 2108 of the Social Security Act (42
4 U.S.C.1397hh), as amended by sections 2 and 3, is
5 amended—

6 (1) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as
7 subsections (d) and (e), respectively; and

8 (2) by inserting after subsection (b) the follow-
9 ing:

10 “(c) **FEDERAL EVALUATION.**—

11 “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary, directly or
12 through contracts or interagency agreements, shall
13 conduct an independent evaluation of 10 States with
14 approved child health plans.

15 “(2) **SELECTION OF STATES.**—In selecting
16 States for the evaluation conducted under this sub-
17 section, the Secretary shall choose 10 States that
18 utilize diverse approaches to providing child health
19 assistance, represent various geographic areas (in-
20 cluding a mix of rural and urban areas), and contain
21 a significant portion of uncovered children.

22 “(3) **MATTERS INCLUDED.**—In addition to the
23 elements described in subsection (b)(1), the evalua-
24 tion conducted under this subsection shall include,
25 but is not limited to, the following:

1 “(A) Surveys of the target population (en-
2 rollees, disenrollees, and individuals eligible for
3 but not enrolled in the program under this
4 title).

5 “(B) Evaluation of effective and ineffective
6 outreach and enrollment practices with respect
7 to children (for both the program under this
8 title and the medicaid program under title
9 XIX), and identification of enrollment barriers
10 and key elements of effective outreach and en-
11 rollment practices, including practices that have
12 successfully enrolled hard-to-reach populations
13 such as children who are eligible for medical as-
14 sistance under title XIX but have not been en-
15 rolled previously in the medicaid program under
16 that title.

17 “(C) Evaluation of the extent to which
18 State medicaid eligibility practices and proce-
19 dures under the medicaid program under title
20 XIX are a barrier to the enrollment of children
21 under that program, and the extent to which
22 coordination (or lack of coordination) between
23 that program and the program under this title
24 affects the enrollment of children under both
25 programs.

1 “(D) An assessment of the effect of cost-
 2 sharing on utilization, enrollment, and coverage
 3 retention.

4 “(E) Evaluation of disenrollment or other
 5 retention issues, such as switching to private
 6 coverage, failure to pay premiums, or barriers
 7 in the recertification process.

8 “(4) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not later
 9 than December 31, 2001, the Secretary shall submit
 10 to Congress the results of the evaluation conducted
 11 under this subsection.

12 “(5) FUNDING.—Out of any money in the
 13 Treasury of the United States not otherwise appro-
 14 priated, there are appropriated \$10,000,000 for fis-
 15 cal year 2000 for the purpose of conducting the eval-
 16 uation authorized under this subsection. Amounts
 17 appropriated under this paragraph shall remain
 18 available without fiscal year limitation.”.

19 **SEC. 5. STANDARDIZED REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR**
 20 **ANNUAL REPORTS.**

21 Section 2108(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
 22 1397hh(a)) is amended by—

23 (1) redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as
 24 subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively and indent-
 25 ing appropriately;

1 (2) by striking “The State shall—” and insert-
2 ing the following

3 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The State shall—”; and

4 (3) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(2) STANDARDIZED REPORTING REQUIRE-
6 MENTS.—Each annual report submitted under this
7 subsection shall, in addition to expenditure and
8 other reporting requirements specified by the Sec-
9 retary, include the following:

10 “(A) Enrollee counts categorized by income
11 (that at least identifies enrollees with income
12 below the poverty line), age, and race or eth-
13 nicity, and, if income levels used in State re-
14 porting differ from that prescribed by the Sec-
15 retary, a detailed description of the eligibility
16 methodologies used by the State, including all
17 relevant income disregards, exempted income,
18 and eligibility family units.

19 “(B) The annual percentages of those indi-
20 viduals who sought coverage (as determined by
21 the Secretary) through the screening and enroll-
22 ment process established under the State pro-
23 gram under this title who were—

24 “(i) enrolled in the program under
25 this title;

1 “(ii) enrolled in the medicaid program
2 under title XIX; or

3 “(iii) determined eligible for, but not
4 enrolled in, the program under this title or
5 the medicaid program under title XIX.”.

6 **SEC. 6. INSPECTOR GENERAL AUDIT AND GAO REPORT ON**
7 **ENROLLEES ELIGIBLE FOR MEDICAID.**

8 Section 2108 of the Social Security Act (42
9 U.S.C.1397hh), as amended by section 4, is amended by
10 adding at the end the following:

11 “(f) INSPECTOR GENERAL AUDIT AND GAO RE-
12 PORT.—

13 “(1) AUDIT.—Beginning with fiscal year 2000,
14 and every third fiscal year thereafter, the Secretary,
15 through the Inspector General of the Department of
16 Health and Human Services, shall audit a sample
17 from among the States described in paragraph (2)
18 in order to—

19 “(A) determine the number, if any,
20 of enrollees under the plan under this title who
21 are eligible for medical assistance under title
22 XIX (other than as an optional targeted
23 low-income children under section
24 1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XIV)); and

1 “(B) assess the progress made in reducing
 2 the number of targeted uncovered low-income
 3 children relative to the goals established in the
 4 State child health plan, as reported to the Sec-
 5 retary in accordance with subsection (a)(2).

6 “(2) STATE DESCRIBED.—A State described in
 7 this paragraph is a State with an approved State
 8 child health plan under this title that does not, as
 9 part of such plan, provide health benefits coverage
 10 under the State’s medicaid program under title XIX.

11 “(3) MONITORING AND REPORT FROM GAO.—
 12 The Comptroller General of the United States shall
 13 monitor the audits conducted under this subsection
 14 and, not later than March 1 of each fiscal year after
 15 a fiscal year in which an audit is conducted under
 16 this subsection, shall submit a report to Congress on
 17 the results of the audit conducted during the prior
 18 fiscal year.”.

19 **SEC. 7. COORDINATION OF DATA COLLECTION WITH DATA**
 20 **REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE MATERNAL AND**
 21 **CHILD HEALTH SERVICES BLOCK GRANT.**

22 Subparagraphs (C)(ii) and (D)(ii) of section
 23 506(a)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 706(a)(2))
 24 are each amended by inserting “or the State plan under
 25 title XXI” after “title XIX”.

1 **SEC. 8. COORDINATION OF DATA SURVEYS AND REPORTS.**

2 The Secretary of Health and Human Services,
3 through the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evalua-
4 tion, shall establish a clearinghouse for the consolidation
5 and coordination of all Federal data bases and reports re-
6 garding children's health.

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