

SENATE BILL NO. 7

INTRODUCED BY M. CAFERRO

BY REQUEST OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON EFFICIENCY IN GOVERNMENT

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING LAWS RELATING TO THE MEDICAID APPLICATION AND ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION PROCESSES; AUTHORIZING THE USE OF ONLINE APPLICATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE; REVISING APPLICATION INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS; CLARIFYING CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS OF THE MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION PROCESS; REQUIRING REPORTS; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 53-6-132 AND 53-6-133, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 53-6-132, MCA, is amended to read:

"53-6-132. Application for assistance -- exception. (1) Subject to subsection ~~(2)~~ (3), application for assistance under this part may be made in any local office of public assistance or through the use of an online application. The application must:

(a) request only the minimum information necessary to make an eligibility determination under state and federal laws; and

(b) be presented in the manner and on the form prescribed by the department.

(2) All individuals wishing to apply must have the opportunity to do so.

~~(2)(3)~~ Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1), the department may designate an entity other than the local office of public assistance to determine eligibility for medicaid ~~managed care~~ services.

(4) The eligibility determination process must:

(a) through a data match system, use information legally accessible by the state, including electronic databases, to collect and verify applicant information in place of requiring applicants to submit documentation;

(b) use technology that includes the use of online applications, electronic databases, document imaging, and other electronic content management tools; and

(c) authorize electronic signatures in accordance with state standards pursuant to Title 30, chapter 18."

Section 2. Section 53-6-133, MCA, is amended to read:

