

SENATE BILL NO. 263

INTRODUCED BY M. CAFERRO

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO PROVIDE HEALTH CARE AND MEDICAID INFORMATION TO INDIVIDUALS IN THE MEDICAID PROGRAM."

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

**NEW SECTION. Section 1. Education and outreach for medicaid program.** (1) To ensure that individuals use the most appropriate medically necessary services and access medicaid benefits at the appropriate place and time, the department shall provide information and ongoing education on medicaid benefits and health care topics. The information and education must be provided in a culturally competent manner through a combination of written and oral methods and using clear, nontechnical language.

(2) The department shall make the following resources available to individuals at the time they are determined eligible for the medicaid program:

(a) a list of covered services grouped by type of services, including but not limited to recommended preventive services, primary care services, specialist services, dental and vision services, and mental health services;

(b) information about the scope and availability of early and periodic screening, diagnostic, and treatment services available for individuals under the age of 21;

(c) a list of services that are not covered by the medicaid program;

(d) information on how to view the comprehensive medicaid manual online and how to request a hard copy of the manual;

(e) the telephone number of the medicaid help line; and

(f) the telephone number of any free medical advice line provided by the medicaid program.

(3) The department shall hold informational sessions at least quarterly at local offices of public assistance or other locations that are easily accessible and centrally located.

(4) The department shall publish a newsletter at least twice a year to provide individuals covered by medicaid with information on changes in the medicaid program, on using medicaid benefits in the most

1 appropriate manner, on wellness topics, and on other health topics determined by the department to be  
2 appropriate for dissemination.

3 (5) (a) The department shall provide an explanation of benefits for medicaid-covered services at least  
4 once a month to:

5 (i) the individual to whom health care services were provided; or

6 (ii) if the individual is a child, the parent, legal guardian, or specified caretaker relative of the child.

7 (b) The explanation of benefits must clearly note that the statement is not a bill and is only a description  
8 of the services and the cost of the services that the individual received.

9 (6) The department shall provide eligibility technicians and caseworkers with copies of all informational  
10 materials developed under this section and other educational materials as necessary.

11 (7) ANY COST INCURRED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN PERFORMING ITS RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THIS SECTION MUST  
12 BE ABSORBED INTO THE DEPARTMENT'S EXISTING BUDGET.

13

14 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an  
15 integral part of Title 53, chapter 6, part 1, and the provisions of Title 53, chapter 6, part 1, apply to [section 1].

16

- END -