

Proposal for Legislation – 2023 Legislative Session

Updated Children’s Health Insurance Plan (CHIP) Eligibility Standards

Return to:

Sue O’Connell
Legislative Services Division
E-mail: soconnell@mt.gov
Phone: 444-3597 Fax: 444-3036

PROPOSER'S NAME/TITLE: Gene Hermanson / HCSD Division Administrator
ORGANIZATION: DPHHS – Human & Community Services Division
ADDRESS: 111 N. Sanders St. Helena, MT. 59601
PHONE: (406) 444-0640
E-MAIL: GHermanson2@mt.gov

1. What is the problem or issue?

Statute does not reflect the current eligibility standards for CHIP. The FPL threshold of 250% identified in statute is no longer accurate. Due to the transition to MAGI-based eligibility, the threshold was converted into the MAGI equivalent of 261% (266% before application of 5% disregard). This modification was required by CMS at the time of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) implementation. Additionally, Montana amended its CHIP state plan several years ago to eliminate the three-month delay in CHIP enrollment following private insurance coverage.

2. What do you want the legislation to do?

This proposal will amend MCA 53-4-1004 to reflect current eligibility standards for CHIP.

3. If possible, please list the MCA (Montana Code Annotated) sections that would need to be amended.

MCA 53-4-1004. Updates to ARM will be necessary upon passage of the legislation

4. If the proposed change requires additional funding, what funding sources do you propose?

No. These changes reflect current program policies and federal requirements that are already in place for CHIP eligibility.

5. Has similar legislation been requested in the past, been introduced in another state, or provided as a model act? If so, please provide a citation, reference, or point of contact.

No. This proposal is a simple cleanup of existing MCA.