

2022 -- H 7484

=====  
LC004539  
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

—————  
A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- HEALTH CARE FOR  
CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN

Introduced By: Representatives Morales, Williams, Felix, Alzate, Giraldo, Kazarian,  
Casimiro, Kislak, Diaz, and Hull

Date Introduced: February 16, 2022

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Sections 42-12.3-4 and 42-12.3-15 of the General Laws in Chapter 42-12.3  
2 entitled "Health Care for Children and Pregnant Women" are hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **42-12.3-4. "RIte track" program.**

4 (a) There is hereby established a payor of last resort program for comprehensive health  
5 care for children until they reach nineteen (19) years of age, to be known as "RIte track." The  
6 department of human services is hereby authorized to amend its Title XIX state plan pursuant to  
7 Title XIX [42 U.S.C. § 1396 et seq.] and Title XXI [ 42 U.S.C. § 1397aa et seq.] of the Social  
8 Security Act as necessary to provide for expanded Medicaid coverage through expanded family  
9 income disregards for children, until they reach nineteen (19) years of age, whose family income  
10 levels are up to two hundred fifty percent (250%) of the federal poverty level. Provided, however,  
11 that healthcare coverage provided under this section shall also be provided ~~in accordance to Title~~  
12 ~~XIX of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1396 et seq.,~~ without regard to availability of federal  
13 financial participation to a noncitizen child who is ~~lawfully residing in the United States,~~ a resident  
14 of Rhode Island and who is otherwise eligible for such assistance. The department is further  
15 authorized to promulgate any regulations necessary, and in accord with Title XIX [42 U.S.C. §  
16 1396 et seq.] and Title XXI [ 42 U.S.C. § 1397aa et seq.] of the Social Security Act as necessary  
17 in order to implement the state plan amendment. For those children who lack health insurance, and  
18 whose family incomes are in excess of two hundred fifty percent (250%) of the federal poverty

1 level, the department of human services shall promulgate necessary regulations to implement the  
2 program. The department of human services is further directed to ascertain and promulgate the  
3 scope of services that will be available to those children whose family income exceeds the  
4 maximum family income specified in the approved Title XIX [42 U.S.C. § 1396 et seq.] and Title  
5 XXI [ 42 U.S.C. § 1397aa et seq.] state plan amendment.

6 (b) The executive office of health and human services is directed to ensure that federal  
7 financial participation is assessed to the maximum extent allowable to provide coverage to children  
8 pursuant to this section, and that state-only funds will be used only if federal financial participation  
9 is not available.

10 **42-12.3-15. Expansion of RIte track program.**

11 (a) The Department of Human Services is hereby authorized and directed to submit to the  
12 United States Department of Health and Human Services an amendment to the "RIte Care" waiver  
13 project number 11-W-0004/1-01 to provide for expanded Medicaid coverage for children until they  
14 reach eight (8) years of age, whose family income levels are to two hundred fifty percent (250%)  
15 of the federal poverty level. Expansion of the RIte track program from the age of six (6) until they  
16 reach eighteen (18) years of age in accordance with this chapter shall be subject to the approval of  
17 the amended waiver by the United States Department of Health and Human Services. Healthcare  
18 coverage under this section shall also be provided to a noncitizen child ~~lawfully residing in the~~  
19 ~~United States~~ who is a resident of Rhode Island, and who is otherwise eligible for such assistance  
20 under Title XIX [42 U.S.C. § 1396 et seq.] or Title XXI [ 42 U.S.C. § 1397aa et seq.]

21 (b) The executive office of health and human services is directed to ensure that federal  
22 financial participation is assessed to the maximum extent allowable to provide coverage to children  
23 pursuant to this section, and that state-only funds will be used only if federal financial participation  
24 is not available.

25 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

=====  
LC004539  
=====

EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- HEALTH CARE FOR  
CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN

\*\*\*

- 1           This act would expand the RIte Track Program to provide health care coverage to children
- 2 up to age nineteen (19) funded by federal funds, if available, or if not available, by state funds.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

=====  
LC004539  
=====