

MAR 10 2023

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO FILE A REQUEST WITH THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES TO AMEND THE STATE'S EXISTING SECTION 1115 DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM TO IMPLEMENT A HOUSING AND HEALTH OPPORTUNITIES DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM TO ENABLE DIRECT HOUSING COSTS FOR MEDICAID RECIPIENTS TO BE COVERED BY THE FEDERAL FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION FOR MEDICAID.

1 WHEREAS, lack of stable housing can impede the ability to
2 enroll in health care coverage and access needed health care,
3 leading to the creation of physical, social, or emotional
4 distress that fuels the cycle of health inequity; and

5
6 WHEREAS, Medicaid is a joint federal-state program that
7 provides health coverage or nursing home coverage to certain
8 categories of individuals, including children, pregnant women,
9 parents of eligible children, low income adults, former foster
10 care children, aged, blind, and disabled individuals; and

11
12 WHEREAS, although federal financial participation for
13 Medicaid is generally not available to state Medicaid programs
14 for room and board, federal funds are generally available from
15 certain federal sources for housing-related support and services
16 that promote health and community integration, including home
17 accessibility modifications, one-time community transition
18 costs, and housing and tenancy support, including pre-tenancy
19 services and tenancy sustaining services; and

20
21 WHEREAS, section 1115 of the federal Social Security Act
22 (Act) allows the United States Secretary of Health and Human
23 Services to waive compliance with certain Medicaid requirements
24 under the Act; approve experimental, pilot, or demonstration
25 projects that are found by the Secretary to be likely to assist
26 in promoting the objectives of the Medicaid program; and provide
27 federal financial participation for demonstration costs that
28 would not otherwise be considered as federally matchable
29 expenditures; and
30



1 WHEREAS, states have significant flexibility in how they
2 define target populations for section 1115 demonstration
3 services and activities, such as by age, risk factors for
4 services, geographic areas, and populations meeting certain
5 characteristics; and
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7 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Health and Human
8 Services, through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid
9 Services, has been advancing housing support services through
10 recent 1115 demonstration approvals that will test innovative
11 interventions that could help to stabilize the housing
12 situations of eligible Medicaid enrollees, improve their use of
13 needed health care, and increase the likelihood they will keep
14 receiving and benefitting from services to which they are
15 entitled; and
16

17 WHEREAS, in October 2022, the Centers for Medicare and
18 Medicaid Services approved a request filed by the Arizona Health
19 Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), Arizona's Medicaid
20 agency, to amend Arizona's section 1115 research and
21 demonstration waiver to implement AHCCCS' Housing and Health
22 Opportunities demonstration program that seeks to enhance and
23 expand housing services and interventions for AHCCCS members who
24 are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless; and
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26 WHEREAS, Arizona's Housing and Health Opportunities
27 demonstration program is a groundbreaking effort designed to
28 complement Arizona's existing housing program funded with
29 general fund dollars that provides rent subsidies to nearly
30 three thousand individuals experiencing homelessness each year;
31 and
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33 WHEREAS, Hawaii also has programs that provide rent
34 subsidies to qualified individuals, including the Rent
35 Supplement Program administered by the Hawaii Public Housing
36 Authority; now, therefore,
37

38 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
39 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023,
40 that the Department of Human Services is requested to:
41



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- 1 (1) Develop a Housing and Health Opportunities
2 demonstration program for the State that is similar to
3 Arizona's Housing and Health Opportunities
4 demonstration program; and
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- 6 (2) File a request with the Centers for Medicare and
7 Medicaid Services to amend the State's existing
8 section 1115 demonstration program to implement the
9 newly created Housing and Health Opportunities
10 demonstration program to enable direct housing costs
11 for Medicaid recipients to be covered by the federal
12 financial participation for Medicaid; and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
15 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human Services.
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18

OFFERED BY: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'ATL', is written over a horizontal line.