By Senator Garcia

37-01326-21 20211526

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to Medicaid coverage for former foster youth; amending s. 409.1451, F.S.; requiring the Department of Children and Families to develop a program to facilitate enrollment of certain young adults in Medicaid; authorizing the department to coordinate with a community-based care lead agency in implementing the program; specifying requirements for outreach services provided by the program; amending s. 409.903, F.S.; revising eligibility for Medicaid coverage for certain young adults formerly eligible for foster care; providing for presumptive eligibility for Medicaid for certain young adults; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Subsection (10) of section 409.1451, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 409.1451 The Road-to-Independence Program. -
- (10) MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FOR YOUNG ADULTS FORMERLY IN CARE.
- (a) Notwithstanding paragraph (2) (a), the department or community-based care lead agency shall develop a program to facilitate the enrollment of document that eligible young adults eligible for are enrolled in Medicaid under s. 409.903(4).
- (b) The department may coordinate with the community-based care lead agency in implementing the program.
- (c) The program must provide outreach services that must include:

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1. Notifying eligible or prospectively eligible young adults, caregivers, group homes, and residential programs about the eligibility and options for enrollment.

- 2. Providing technical assistance to eligible young adults in enrolling.
- 3. Publicizing options for Medicaid enrollment for young adults who have lived in foster care.

Section 2. Subsection (4) of section 409.903, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.903 Mandatory payments for eligible persons.—The agency shall make payments for medical assistance and related services on behalf of the following persons who the department, or the Social Security Administration by contract with the Department of Children and Families, determines to be eligible, subject to the income, assets, and categorical eligibility tests set forth in federal and state law. Payment on behalf of these Medicaid eligible persons is subject to the availability of moneys and any limitations established by the General Appropriations Act or chapter 216.

- (4) A child who is eligible under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act for subsidized board payments, foster care, or adoption subsidies, and a child for whom the state has assumed temporary or permanent responsibility and who does not qualify for Title IV-E assistance but is in foster care, shelter or emergency shelter care, or subsidized adoption. This category includes:
- (a) A young adult who as a child was eligible under Title

 IV-E of the Social Security Act for foster care or state
 provided foster care and was living in licensed care in this

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state on his or her 18th birthday is eligible to receive services under s. 409.1451, until the young adult reaches 26 21 years of age, without regard to any income, resource, or categorical eligibility test that is otherwise required. A young adult who is eligible for Medicaid under this paragraph must be offered the opportunity, subject to federal rules, to be made presumptively eligible.

- (b) A person who as a child was eligible under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act for foster care or the state-provided foster care and who is a participant in the Road-to-Independence Program.
- $\frac{\text{(c)}}{\text{A}}$ A child who is eligible for the Guardianship Assistance Program as provided in s. 39.6225.
 - Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.