

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to a Medicaid dental pilot program;
3 creating s. 409.9079, F.S.; defining the term "persons
4 with disabilities"; requiring the Agency for Health
5 Care Administration to establish and operate a 3-year
6 Medicaid dental pilot program in Region B of the
7 Statewide Medicaid Managed Care program for persons
8 with disabilities; providing eligibility criteria;
9 specifying covered benefits; providing reimbursement
10 requirements; requiring managed care participation;
11 directing the agency to seek federal approval;
12 requiring the agency to collect specified data and
13 submit a report to the Governor and Legislature by a
14 specified date; providing for expiration; providing an
15 effective date.

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

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19 **Section 1. Section 409.9079, Florida Statutes, is created**
20 **to read:**

21 409.9079 Medicaid dental pilot program for persons with
22 disabilities in Region B.—

23 (1) As used in this section, the term "persons with
24 disabilities" means Medicaid-eligible individuals who:

25 (a) Receive Supplemental Security Income on the basis of

26 disability;

27 (b) Are enrolled in a home and community-based services
28 waiver program under s. 1915(c) of the Social Security Act; or

29 (c) Meet federal disability criteria under 42 U.S.C. s.
30 1382c(a)(3) as determined by the Social Security Administration
31 or the state Medicaid program.

32 (2) The agency shall establish and operate a 3-year
33 Medicaid dental pilot program in Region B of the Statewide
34 Medicaid Managed Care program to provide enhanced dental
35 services to persons with disabilities.

36 (3) Participation in the pilot program is limited to
37 persons with disabilities who reside in Region B and are
38 enrolled in the state Medicaid program.

39 (4) Dental services provided under the pilot program must
40 include:

41 (a) Routine diagnostic and preventive care, including
42 examinations, cleanings, and radiographs.

43 (b) Basic dental services, including fillings and
44 extractions.

45 (c) Major dental services, including root canals, crowns,
46 and dentures and other dental prostheses.

47 (d) Emergency dental services.

48 (e) Any additional dental services that the agency
49 determines are necessary to promote oral health and prevent
50 disease.

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52 Services provided under this subsection supplement and do not
53 replace the dental benefits available under ss. 409.906 and
54 409.973.

55 (5) The agency shall reimburse providers of dental
56 services under the pilot program at a rate equivalent to 80
57 percent of the 50th percentile of the usual, customary, and
58 reasonable fees as determined by the American Dental Association
59 or a comparable benchmark approved by the agency.

60 (6) The pilot program must be delivered through at least
61 two licensed dental managed care organizations that meet agency
62 standards and have demonstrated experience in providing dental
63 services to persons with disabilities.

64 (7) The agency shall submit any Medicaid state plan
65 amendments or federal waiver applications necessary to implement
66 the pilot program.

67 (8) (a) The agency shall collect data on:

68 1. Access to dental care.

69 2. Utilization of services.

70 3. Reimbursement expenditures.

71 4. Oral health outcomes for participants.

72 (b) By January 1, 2028, the agency shall submit a report
73 to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of
74 the House of Representatives evaluating the effectiveness of the
75 pilot program and recommending whether the pilot program should

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76 | be expanded statewide.

77 | (9) This section expires June 30, 2028, unless reviewed
78 | and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

79 | **Section 2.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.