

SENATE BILL 181

J1
SB 649/06 – B&T

71r1343
CF HB 30

By: **Senator Middleton**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2007

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Recommitted to Finance, February 28, 2007

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 6, 2007

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Oral Health Safety Net Program**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Oral Health Safety Net Program in the Office of
4 Oral Health in the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; providing for the
5 purpose of the Program; requiring the Office to solicit certain proposals; ~~and~~
6 requiring the Office to award certain grants and oversee the operation of the
7 Program, subject to the limitations of the State budget; ~~requiring the Office to~~
8 ~~oversee the operation of the Program~~; requiring the Office to conduct a certain
9 annual evaluation of the Program; requiring the Office to contract with a
10 certain individual, subject to the limitations of the State budget; requiring the
11 Office to provide certain education courses, subject to the limitations of the
12 State budget; requiring the Office to submit a certain report to the Governor
13 and to the General Assembly on or before a certain date each year; declaring the
14 intent of the General Assembly; requiring the Department to conduct a certain
15 survey; requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to submit a
16 certain report to the General Assembly on a certain date; defining a certain
17 term; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to oral
18 health for underserved populations in the State.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 BY adding to
2 Article – Health – General
3 Section 13–2501 through 13–2506, ~~inclusive~~, to be under the new subtitle
4 “Subtitle 25. Oral Health Safety Net Program”
5 Annotated Code of Maryland
6 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

7 Preamble

8 WHEREAS, While almost 44% of HealthChoice recipients make at least one
9 dental visit each year, only 14% of HealthChoice recipients receive restorative dental
10 care; and

11 WHEREAS, Restorative treatment services should be increased to better
12 accommodate the needs of the HealthChoice population and other underserved
13 populations; now, therefore,

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
15 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article – Health – General**

17 **SUBTITLE 25. ORAL HEALTH SAFETY NET PROGRAM.**

18 **13–2501.**

19 (A) **IN THIS SUBTITLE, “PROGRAM” MEANS THE ORAL HEALTH SAFETY**
20 **NET PROGRAM.**

21 (B) **THERE IS AN ORAL HEALTH SAFETY NET PROGRAM IN THE OFFICE**
22 **OF ORAL HEALTH IN THE DEPARTMENT.**

23 (C) **THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE START-UP**
24 **FUNDING TO EXPAND ORAL HEALTH CAPACITY FOR UNDERSERVED**
25 **LOW-INCOME AND DISABLED INDIVIDUALS, INCLUDING INDIVIDUALS**
26 **ENROLLED IN THE MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND IN THE**
27 **MARYLAND CHILDREN’S HEALTH PROGRAM.**

28 **13–2502.**

1 (A) THE OFFICE OF ORAL HEALTH SHALL SOLICIT PROPOSALS FROM
2 LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS, FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS, AND
3 ENTITIES PROVIDING DENTAL SERVICES WITHIN STATE FACILITIES, FOR THE
4 PURPOSE OF ISSUING GRANTS TO SUPPORT COLLABORATIVE AND INNOVATIVE
5 WAYS TO INCREASE DENTAL PROVIDER CAPACITY FOR THE UNDERSERVED.

6 (B) SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS OF THE STATE BUDGET, THE OFFICE
7 OF ORAL HEALTH SHALL:

8 (1) AWARD GRANTS; AND

9 (2) OVERSEE THE OPERATION OF THE PROGRAM.

10 (C) THE OFFICE OF ORAL HEALTH SHALL PLACE PRIORITY ON
11 AWARDED GRANTS TO PROPOSALS THAT:

12 (1) ARE TARGETED TO REGIONS OF THE STATE WHERE ORAL
13 HEALTH SERVICES ARE MOST SCARCE FOR LOW-INCOME, DISABLED, AND
14 MEDICAID POPULATIONS; AND

15 (2) ~~OUTLINE~~ OUTLINE HOW THE POTENTIAL GRANTEE WILL
16 MAXIMIZE LIMITED RESOURCES, INCLUDING:

17 ~~(1)~~ (I) SHARING OF RESOURCES WITH OTHER PERSONS ~~OR~~
18 ~~ORGANIZATIONS;~~

19 ~~(2)~~ (II) CASE MANAGEMENT TO ELIMINATE BARRIERS TO
20 DENTAL SERVICES;

21 ~~(3)~~ (III) PUBLIC-PRIVATE PURCHASING AGREEMENTS;

22 ~~(4)~~ (IV) OBTAINING MATCHING FUNDS TO INCREASE
23 RESOURCES;

24 ~~(5)~~ (V) INCENTIVES TO INCREASE PROVIDER PARTICIPATION;

25 ~~(6)~~ (VI) QUANTIFIABLE OUTCOME MEASURES OF SUCCESS;

26 ~~(7)~~ (VII) SCHOOL-BASED SCREENINGS; AND

1 ~~(8)~~ (VIII) PLANS TO ENSURE SUSTAINABILITY OF SERVICES
2 AFTER TERMINATION OF GRANTS AWARDED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

3 **13-2503.**

4 **SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS OF THE STATE BUDGET, THE OFFICE OF**
5 **ORAL HEALTH SHALL:**

6 (1) CONTRACT WITH A LICENSED DENTIST TO PROVIDE
7 EXPERTISE IN DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES FOR THE OFFICE; AND

8 (2) PROVIDE FOR APPROPRIATE CONTINUING EDUCATION
9 COURSES FOR PROVIDERS THAT OFFER ORAL HEALTH TREATMENT TO
10 UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS.

11 **13-2504.**

12 (A) (1) THE OFFICE OF ORAL HEALTH SHALL CONDUCT AN ANNUAL
13 EVALUATION OF THE PROGRAM.

14 (2) THE EVALUATION REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL
15 INCLUDE:

16 (I) DATA ON ANY PROGRESS RESULTING FROM EACH
17 GRANT AWARDED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE;

18 (II) DATA ON ANY PROGRESS OF THE OVERALL ~~PROGRAM~~
19 PROGRAM;

20 (III) DATA DEMONSTRATING ANY INCREASE IN THE USE OF
21 RESTORATIVE DENTAL CARE AMONG UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS; AND

22 (IV) DATA FROM ANY STATEWIDE SURVEY CONDUCTED BY
23 THE DEPARTMENT THAT DEMONSTRATES ANY PROGRESS OF THE PROGRAM.

24 (B) THE OFFICE OF ORAL HEALTH SHALL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR
25 AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE,
26 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30 OF EACH YEAR ON
27 THE RESULTS OF THE PROGRAM ~~ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.~~

1 **13-2505.**

2 **IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:**

3 ~~(1) THAT \$2,000,000 BE INCLUDED IN EACH OF THE FISCAL 2009,~~
4 ~~2010, AND 2011 STATE OPERATING BUDGETS TO SUPPORT THE COSTS OF THE~~
5 ~~PROGRAM;~~

6 ~~(2)~~ **THAT GRANTS SHALL BE AWARDED THROUGH THE PROGRAM**
7 **FROM JULY 1, 2008 THROUGH JULY 31, 2008 JUNE 30, 2009, FOR FISCAL YEAR**
8 **2009; AND**

9 ~~(3)~~ **(2) THAT FULL FUNDING FOR GRANTS SHALL CONTINUE IN**
10 **THE SUBSEQUENT TWO FISCAL YEARS UNLESS THE OFFICE OF ORAL HEALTH**
11 **DETERMINES THAT A GRANTEE IS NOT FULFILLING THE CONDITIONS OF THE**
12 **AWARD.**

13 **13-2506.**

14 ~~THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE~~ **SHALL CONDUCT**
15 **A STATEWIDE FOLLOW-UP SURVEY ON OR BEFORE JUNE 1, 2011, CONCERNING**
16 **THE ORAL HEALTH STATUS OF SCHOOL CHILDREN IN THE STATE.**

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

18 (a) The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene shall report, in accordance
19 with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly the following:

20 (1) the annual cost to provide comprehensive oral health services in all
21 programs funded by the Maryland Medical Assistance Program;

22 (2) the amount of State revenues spent on somatic health services
23 related to the lack of comprehensive oral health care; and

24 (3) the number of dental providers in each jurisdiction in the State
25 providing care to uninsured and under-insured residents, the number of residents
26 served, and the dental providers' capacity to provide additional services.

1 **(b) The report required under subsection (a) of this section shall be**
2 **submitted to the General Assembly on or before December 1, 2007.**

3 SECTION ~~2~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
4 effect October 1, 2007. It shall remain effective for a period of 4 years and, at the end
5 of September 30, 2011, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this
6 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.