

By: Holland, Espy, Flaggs

To: Public Health and
Welfare;
AppropriationsHOUSE BILL NO. 1469
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 41-86-15, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO REVISE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA UNDER THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH
3 INSURANCE PROGRAM (CHIP) TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON WHO IS WITHOUT
4 INSURANCE COVERAGE AND WHO MEETS THE OTHER ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA IN
5 THE PROGRAM WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE COVERED BENEFITS UNDER THE
6 PROGRAM; TO AMEND SECTION 41-86-19, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
7 REQUIRE THE CHIP ADVISORY BOARD TO CONDUCT A COMMUNITY-BASED
8 OUTREACH AND EDUCATION CAMPAIGN TO PROVIDE INFORMATION RELATING TO
9 THE AVAILABILITY OF HEALTH BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN THROUGH MEDICAID
10 AND THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM; TO AUTHORIZE THE CHIP
11 ADVISORY BOARD TO CONTRACT WITH COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS OR
12 COALITIONS OF COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE
13 CAMPAIGN, AND REQUIRE THIS ADVISORY BOARD TO PROMOTE AND ENCOURAGE
14 VOLUNTARY EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT THE CAMPAIGN; TO PROVIDE THAT
15 FUNDING FOR THE CAMPAIGN AND FOR ANY CONTRACTS EXECUTED BY THE
16 CHIP ADVISORY BOARD TO IMPLEMENT THE CAMPAIGN SHALL BE PROVIDED BY
17 THE DIVISION OF MEDICAID; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

19 SECTION 1. Section 41-86-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
20 amended as follows:

21 41-86-15. (1) Persons eligible to receive covered benefits
22 under Sections 41-86-5 through 41-86-17 shall be low-income
23 children who meet the eligibility standards set forth in the plan.

24 Any person who is eligible for benefits under the Mississippi
25 Medicaid Law, Section 43-13-101 et seq., shall not be eligible to
26 receive benefits under Sections 41-86-5 through 41-86-17. A
27 person who is without insurance coverage and who meets the other
28 eligibility criteria in the plan shall be eligible to receive
29 covered benefits under the program.

30 (2) The eligibility of children for covered benefits under
31 the program shall be determined annually by the same agency or
32 entity that determines eligibility under Section 43-13-115(9) and
33 shall cover twelve (12) continuous months under the program.

34 SECTION 2. Section 41-86-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
35 amended as follows:

36 41-86-19. (1) The Division of Medicaid shall develop a
37 Children's Health Insurance Program enrollment outreach initiative
38 in cooperation with the State Department of Education's federal
39 free and reduced lunch program, the State Department of Health,
40 the Department of Human Services, the Department of Finance and
41 Administration, community health centers, the Mississippi State
42 Medical Association, the Mississippi State Hospital Association,
43 other health provider associations and community action
44 agencies/Headstart centers. The enrollment outreach initiative
45 shall be the responsibility of the CHIP Information Coordinator
46 within the Division of Medicaid. The Division of Medicaid is
47 authorized to maintain a statewide in-coming wide area telephone
48 service for the purpose of providing information for and
49 encouraging Children's Health Insurance Program enrollment.

50 (2) (a) The CHIP Advisory Board established under Section
51 41-86-21(1) shall conduct a community-based outreach and education
52 campaign to provide information relating to the availability of
53 health benefits for children through Medicaid and the Children's
54 Health Insurance Program. The CHIP Advisory Board shall conduct
55 the campaign in a manner that promotes enrollment in all state
56 child health programs and supports existing outreach and
57 enrollment initiatives, including the initiative mandated under
58 subsection (1) of this section.

59 (b) The CHIP Advisory Board may contract with
60 community-based organizations or coalitions of community-based
61 organizations to implement the community-based outreach and
62 education campaign, and shall promote and encourage voluntary
63 efforts to implement the campaign. The CHIP Advisory Board shall
64 procure any contracts through a process designed by the advisory
65 board to encourage broad participation of organizations, including
66 those organizations that target population groups with high levels

67 of uninsured children.

68 (c) Funding for the community-based outreach and
69 education campaign and for any contracts executed by the CHIP
70 Advisory Board to implement the campaign shall be provided by the
71 Division of Medicaid.

72 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from
73 and after July 1, 2000.