

By: Senator(s) Hickman

To: Medicaid

SENATE BILL NO. 2888

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE AND DIRECT THE MISSISSIPPI DIVISION OF
2 MEDICAID (MDOM) TO CONDUCT A STUDY EXAMINING THE EFFECTIVENESS AND
3 FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY OF WORK REPORTING REQUIREMENTS IN MEDICAID
4 EXPANSION LEGISLATION, IN THE EVENT A MEDICAID EXPANSION BILL
5 EXPANDS COVERAGE TO CREATE A PLAN TO ALLOW MEDICAID COVERAGE IN
6 MISSISSIPPI FOR INDIVIDUALS DESCRIBED IN THE FEDERAL AFFORDABLE
7 CARE ACT, TO PROVIDE THAT THE COVERAGE GROUP FOR ELIGIBILITY MUST
8 BE INDIVIDUALS 19-64 OF AGE WHOSE INCOME IS NOT MORE THAN 138% OF
9 THE FPL; TO PROVIDE FOR A STUDY OF THE EFFECTS OF MANDATORY
10 MONTHLY AND/OR QUARTERLY WORK REPORTING REQUIREMENTS ON THE NEWLY
11 ELIGIBLE COVERAGE GROUP; TO PROVIDE THAT UPON THE COMPLETION OF
12 THE STUDY CYCLE CONDUCTED BY JULY 1, 2028, A REVIEW OF THE STUDY
13 MUST BE CONDUCTED BY THE MEDICAID COMMITTEES OF BOTH HOUSES OF THE
14 LEGISLATURE; TO AUTHORIZE THE DIVISION TO RECOMMEND METHODOLOGY TO
15 AMEND MEDICAID EXPANSION WORK REQUIREMENT LEGISLATION UPON REVIEW
16 OF THE REPORT DISPLAYING DETRIMENTAL IMPACTS TO THE COVERAGE
17 GROUP, IMPLICATIONS OF MEDICAID COVERAGE LOSS FOR HEALTH CARE
18 PROVIDERS AND HEALTH PLANS; TO PROVIDE THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS
19 ACT SHALL STAND REPEALED ON JANUARY 31, 2032; AND FOR RELATED
20 PURPOSES.

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

22 **SECTION 1.** (1) The Mississippi Division of Medicaid (MDOM)
23 shall collect, evaluate and report upon the following data in
24 connection with the Medicaid expansion program as federal law may
25 require:

26 (a) In addition to and on the same schedule as the data
27 collection required by federal law, the division shall collect,



28 evaluate and report on further information with respect to any
29 mandatory work reporting requirements of the Medicaid expansion
30 legislation.

31 (b) With respect to all terminations of Medicaid
32 benefits to the coverage group, all of the same information as
33 required under the federal law, plus the specific reason or
34 reasons for the termination must be recorded and provided for the
35 study upon request.

36 (c) The division shall, in conjunction with the
37 Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL) in addition to
38 the foregoing data collection and reporting activities, conduct a
39 study on the implementation of Medicaid expansion and work
40 reporting requirements. The study shall select subgroups
41 representing important sectors of the coverage group, including
42 type of area of residence (city, suburban, small town, rural),
43 English proficiency, level of education, literacy, work
44 experience, number of adults in the home, number of children in
45 the home, teen parentage, parents before and after the age of
46 eighteen (18), and other such subgroups. For each subgroup, the
47 study shall assemble a statistically valid sample of cases
48 entering the Medicaid expansion and work reporting requirements
49 programs at least six (6) months after its implementation date and
50 prior to July 1, 2026. The study shall continue until July 1,
51 2031. The division shall report to the Medicaid committees of the
52 House and Senate and Governor by March 1 of each year, beginning



July 1, 2027, the interim findings of the study with respect to each subgroup, and by August 1, 2031, the final findings of the study with respect to each subgroup. The reports shall be available to the public upon request. No later than November 1, 2031, the division, in consultation with an advisory panel of specialists in welfare policy, social science, and other relevant fields shall devise the study and identify the factors to be studied. The study shall, however, at least include the following features:

(i) Demographic breakdowns including, but not limited to, race, gender, and number of children in the household at the beginning of division services. Study participants must meet the following criteria to participate:

1. Age nineteen (19) through sixty-four (64);
2. Received Medicaid coverage in the past year and have been subject to new Medicaid work requirements as a condition of eligibility;
3. Lost Medicaid eligibility in the past six (6) months by not meeting Mississippi Division of Medicaid work requirement rules and reporting procedures; or regained Medicaid coverage by reporting work activities; or received employment assistance.

(ii) The division shall obtain permission to conduct the study from the subjects of the study and guarantee their privacy according to the federal law, Health Insurance



78 Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA). To facilitate this
79 permission, the study may be designed to refer to subject by
80 pseudonyms or codes and shall in any event guarantee anonymity to
81 the subject without limiting access by outsiders to the data
82 (other than identities) generated by the study.

83 (iii) The subjects of the study shall be studied
84 upon enrollment and potential disenrollment based on compliance
85 with work reporting requirements to the extent feasible. The
86 evaluator shall attempt to maintain personal contact with the
87 subjects of the study, and employ such methods as meetings,
88 telephone contacts, written surveys, and computer matches with
89 other data bases to accomplish this purpose. The intent of this
90 feature of the study is to discover the paths the coverage group
91 takes upon expansion of Medicaid and implementation of work
92 reporting requirements including the factors that may influence
93 these paths and patterns. The study shall include a review and
94 analysis of:

95 1. Division of Medicaid outreach and
96 education efforts;

97 3. Division of Medicaid training and
98 employment resources;

99 4. Division of Medicaid work reporting
100 systems;

101 5. Division of Medicaid exemptions from work
102 requirements;



103 6. Division of Medicaid enrollee
104 understanding of work requirements;

105 7. Implications of Medicaid coverage loss for
106 health care providers and health plans.

107 (iv) The study shall examine the influence of
108 various employability, education, and training programs upon
109 employment, earnings, job tenure, and unemployment through work
110 reporting requirement mandates.

111 (v) The study shall examine the frequency of
112 unplanned occurrences in subjects' lives, such as illness or
113 injury, family members' illness or injury, transportation
114 complications, strikes, natural disasters, evictions, loss of
115 other sources of income, domestic violence, and crime, and their
116 impact upon employment, earnings, job tenure, and unemployment
117 through work reporting requirement mandates.

118 (vi) The study shall examine the reasons for
119 subjects' benefits loss, the reasons for coverage loss due to
120 administrative requirements, noncompliance of work reporting
121 requirements, the availability of reenrollment services, programs
122 or services utilized by subjects to reenroll, whether the subject
123 suffered a job loss, the characteristics of the subject's next job
124 if applicable, and the relationship of these factors to
125 reenrollment benefits, job tenure, and unemployment through work
126 reporting requirement mandates.



(vii) The study shall examine the impact of mandatory work reporting requirements, including the types of work activities, and the links between the requirements and the activities and sanctions, employment, earnings, job tenure, and unemployment through work reporting requirement mandates.

(viii) The study shall, in compliance with HIPPA laws, track the subjects' usage of Medicaid benefits over the course of the study, including patterns of usage, preventative visits/screenings, sick visits, surgeries, emergency room visits, and number of cases.

(ix) Put an objective, third-party evaluation in place at the start of a Medicaid work requirements demonstration so the implementation and impacts can be rigorously evaluated.

(x) The division may recommend methodology to amend any Medicaid expansion work requirements upon review of the study prescribed in this section.

(2) This section shall stand repealed on January 31, 2031.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2025.

