

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1279

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to establish a community engagement requirement for certain individuals under the Medicaid program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 13, 2025

Mr. BEAN of Florida (for himself, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. KENNEDY of Utah, and Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to establish a community engagement requirement for certain individuals under the Medicaid program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REQUIREMENT**
4 **FOR APPLICABLE INDIVIDUALS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1903(i) of the Social Se-
6 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1396b(i)) is amended—

7 (1) in paragraph (26), by striking “; or” and
8 inserting a semicolon;

1 (2) in paragraph (27), by striking the period at
2 the end and inserting “; or”;

3 (3) by inserting after paragraph (27) the fol-
4 lowing new paragraph:

5 “(28) with respect to any amount expended for
6 medical assistance for an applicable individual for a
7 month in a calendar year if such individual did not
8 meet the community engagement requirement under
9 section 1905(kk) for 3 or more preceding months
10 during such calendar year while such individual was
11 an applicable individual and was enrolled in a State
12 plan (or waiver of such plan) under this title.”; and

13 (4) in the flush left matter at the end, by strik-
14 ing “and (18),” and inserting “(18), and (28)”.

15 (b) COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REQUIREMENT.—
16 Section 1905 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d)
17 is amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
18 section:

19 “(kk) COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REQUIREMENT
20 FOR APPLICABLE INDIVIDUALS.—

21 “(1) COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REQUIREMENT
22 DESCRIBED.—For purposes of section 1903(i)(28),
23 the community engagement requirement described in
24 this subsection with respect to an applicable indi-
25 vidual and a month is that such individual satisfies

1 at least one of the following with respect to such
2 month:

3 “(A) The individual works 80 hours or
4 more per month, or has a monthly income that
5 is at least equal to the Federal minimum wage
6 under section 6 of the Fair Labor Standards
7 Act of 1938, multiplied by 80 hours.

8 “(B) The individual completes 80 hours or
9 more of community service per month.

10 “(C) The individual participates in a work
11 program for at least 80 hours per month.

12 “(D) The individual participates in a com-
13 bination of work, including community service,
14 and a work program for a total of at least 80
15 hours per month.

16 “(2) VERIFICATION.—For purposes of verifying
17 the compliance of an applicable individual with the
18 community engagement requirement under para-
19 graph (1), a State Medicaid agency shall, whenever
20 possible, prioritize the utilization of existing data-
21 bases or other verification measures, including the
22 National Change of Address Database Maintained
23 by the United States Postal Service, State health
24 and human services agencies, payroll databases, or

1 other reliable sources of information, prior to seek-
2 ing additional verification from such individual.

3 “(3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

4 “(A) APPLICABLE INDIVIDUAL.—The term
5 ‘applicable individual’ means any individual who
6 is not—

7 “(i) under 18 years of age or over 65
8 years of age;

9 “(ii) physically or mentally unfit for
10 employment, as determined by a physician
11 or other medical professional;

12 “(iii) pregnant;

13 “(iv) the parent or caretaker of a de-
14 pendent child;

15 “(v) the parent or caretaker of an in-
16 capacitated person;

17 “(vi) complying with work require-
18 ments under a different program under
19 Federal law;

20 “(vii) participating in a drug or alco-
21 hol treatment and rehabilitation program
22 (as defined in section 3(h) of the Food and
23 Nutrition Act of 2008); or

24 “(viii) enrolled in an educational pro-
25 gram at least half time.

1 “(B) EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM.—The term
2 ‘educational program’ means—

3 “(i) an institution of higher education
4 (as defined in section 101(a) of the Higher
5 Education Act of 1965);

6 “(ii) a program of career and tech-
7 nical education (as defined in section 3 of
8 the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical
9 Education Act of 2006); or

10 “(iii) any other educational program
11 approved by the Secretary.

12 “(C) STATE MEDICAID AGENCY.—The
13 term ‘State Medicaid agency’ means the State
14 agency responsible for administering the State
15 Medicaid plan.

16 “(D) WORK PROGRAM.—The term ‘work
17 program’ has the meaning given such term in
18 section 6(o)(1) of the Food and Nutrition Act
19 of 2008.”.

20 (c) STATE OPTION TO DISENROLL CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.—Section 1902(a) of the Social Security Act (42
21 U.S.C. 1396a(a)) is amended by adding at the end of the
22 flush left text following paragraph (87) the following:
23 “Notwithstanding any of the preceding provisions of this
24 subsection, at the option of a State, such State may elect
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1 to disenroll an applicable individual for a month if, with
2 respect to medical assistance furnished to such individual
3 for such month, no Federal financial participation would
4 be available, pursuant to section 1903(i)(28).”.

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