

Amend Floor Amendment No. 67 on page 57 of the amendment packet by striking everything after "Medicaid Eligibility Determinations for Children." and substituting the following:

"Out of funds appropriated above in Goal B, Medicaid:

(a) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission ("the commissioner") shall, to the greatest extent possible, diminish errors which create barriers that wrongly deny or delay coverage for which a child is eligible.

(1) In accordance with federal regulations, the commissioner shall work to provide that children are screened simultaneously for eligibility for the Medicaid program and the state child health plan using a consolidated application; and

(2) once the eligibility procedures are complete, all children identified as eligible for the Medicaid program should be automatically enrolled without further application or qualification.

(b) The commissioner shall ensure that the processing time for applications and eligibility redeterminations for the Medicaid program meet or exceed the performance levels realized in state fiscal year 2004 by ensuring that the private and public components, including call centers, of the eligibility and enrollment system for the Medicaid program are adequately staffed and trained. In addition, the commissioner shall ensure that all computer systems that support the eligibility and enrollment systems are performing properly.

(c) If for any reason a child becomes ineligible for the state child health plan program, the Health and Human Services Commission shall, before terminating the child's benefits under the program, determine whether the child is eligible for the Medicaid program, based on the information currently available to the commission. If the commission determines that the child is eligible, the commission shall enroll the child in the Medicaid program without further application or qualification, unless the child's parent objects to enrollment. The commission shall notify a parent of the child's eligibility for the Medicaid program and automatic enrollment in that program as soon as practicable after eligibility has been determined.

The intent of this amendment is that it be revenue neutral, and that these provisions be completed within funds appropriated above in Goal B.