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H.B. 664
134th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Lightbody and Hoops

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SUMMARY

- Requires the Medicaid program to cover the optional eligibility group consisting of certain workers with disabilities.
- Declares that the General Assembly's intent in requiring that Medicaid cover the group described above is to provide coverage consistent with Ohio's existing Medicaid Buy-In for Workers with Disabilities (MBIWD) program for workers with disabilities age 65 or older.
- Upon federal approval of a state Medicaid plan amendment to authorize this coverage, permits the Medicaid Director to certify to the Director of Budget and Management the necessary amount to pay for the coverage and, upon certification, appropriates that amount.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Medicaid coverage for workers with a disability

The bill requires the Medicaid program to provide coverage to employed individuals with disabilities whose family income is less than 250% of the federal poverty level.¹ Under federal law, states have the option of extending Medicaid coverage to this group of individuals.² The bill requires the Medicaid Director to adopt any rules necessary to provide Medicaid coverage for this group of individuals.³

¹ R.C. 5163.06(C).

² 42 United States Code (U.S.C.) 1396a(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XIII).

³ R.C. 5163.062.

In requiring the Medicaid program to cover this group of employed individuals with disabilities, the bill declares that it is the intent of the General Assembly to establish Medicaid coverage for employed individuals with disabilities who are 65 years of age or older in a manner that is consistent with the coverage that is provided to individuals who participate in the Medicaid Buy-In for Workers with Disabilities (MBIWD) program established under existing Ohio law.⁴

The MBIWD program provides Medicaid coverage to employed individuals with disabilities and employed individuals with medically improved disabilities who are between 16 and 64 years of age.⁵ The individuals covered under the MBIWD program are individuals who make up two other optional eligibility groups under federal law.⁶ However, under federal law, an employed individual with a disability is no longer eligible to participate in the MBIWD program upon reaching 65 years of age. The optional eligibility group the bill requires the Medicaid program to provide coverage for also consists of employed individuals with a disability, but federal law authorizing Medicaid coverage for this group does not include an age limit.

The bill provides that upon approval of a state plan amendment by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that authorizes Medicaid coverage of this optional eligibility group, the Medicaid Director may certify to the Director of Budget and Management the necessary amount needed to pay for coverage of the optional eligibility group in fiscal years 2022 and 2023. Upon this certification, the bill appropriates that amount to the Department of Medicaid.⁷

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	05-12-22

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⁴ R.C. 5163.062.

⁵ R.C. 5163.02(D) and (E); R.C. 5163.09 through 5163.098, not in the bill.

⁶ 42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XV) and (XVI).

⁷ Section 3.