

HOUSE BILL NO. 601

INTRODUCED BY S. HOWELL, M. CAFERRO

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MEDICAID COMMUNITY ASSISTER PORTAL;
PROVIDING FOR REQUIRED AND OPTIONAL PORTAL SERVICES; AND PROVIDING A DEFINITION."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Medicaid community assister portal.** (1) By May 1, 2026, the
department shall establish an online portal that allows a community assister to help an applicant or enrollee
who seeks assistance from that community assister to apply for medicaid coverage and to submit required
documents.

(2) The online portal must allow a community assister to:

- (a) review the status of a medicaid application or redetermination;
- (b) view notices from the department to the applicant or enrollee;
- (c) report a change in an applicant or enrollee's eligibility status;
- (d) view actions required by the applicant or enrollee; and
- (e) update the applicant or enrollee's contact information.

(3) The online portal may allow a community assister to:

- (a) submit an application for initial coverage or redetermination on behalf of the applicant or
enrollee; or
- (b) upload verification documents for the applicant or enrollee.

(4) The online portal must allow a medicaid applicant or enrollee to designate one or more
community assisters to help the applicant or enrollee with the activities prescribed under subsection (2) and
allowed under subsection (3).

(5) For the purposes of this section, "community assister" means a person or organization who
helps individuals apply for health coverage under the Montana medicaid program established in 53-6-101.

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