

HOUSE BILL NO. 880

INTRODUCED BY M. CAFERRO

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING MEDICAID RESERVE FUNDING LAWS; ESTABLISHING THE MEDICAID STABILIZATION RESERVE ACCOUNT; PROVIDING LIMITATIONS ON APPROPRIATIONS FROM AND USE OF THE ACCOUNT; PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION; AMENDING SECTION 53-6-151, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND AN APPLICABILITY DATE."

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

Section 1. Section 53-6-151, MCA, is amended to read:

"53-6-151. Medicaid stabilization reserve account. (1) There is a medicaid stabilization reserve account in the state special revenue fund provided for in 17-2-102. ~~Money in the account must be used by the department for medicaid benefits after June 30, 2011.~~

(2) The purpose of the medicaid stabilization reserve account is to mitigate expenditure reductions pursuant to 17-7-140 for the medicaid program by providing state medicaid matching funds when a revenue shortfall is expected.

(3) At the completion of each fiscal year, the entire amount of any state general fund appropriations for medicaid that would otherwise revert to the general fund must be transferred to this account.

(4) The provisions of subsection (3) do not apply in a fiscal year in which reductions required by 17-7-140 occur or if a transfer pursuant to subsection (3) would require reductions pursuant to 17-7-140.

(5) If a reduction to the medicaid program is proposed pursuant to 17-7-140, the governor may submit a budget amendment for authority to use funds in this account to reduce or eliminate the proposed reductions to state medicaid matching funds.

(6) (a) Funds from this account may not be appropriated unless the budget director certifies a projected general fund budget deficit pursuant to 17-7-140.

(b) Funds may only be appropriated by the legislature for state medicaid matching funds.

~~(7) Any interest or income earned on the account must be deposited in the account. Each calendar quarter through December 31, 2010, the amount recovered under the federal medical assistance percentage hold harmless provision of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Public Law 111-5, must be transferred to the medicaid reserve account."~~

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Appropriation.** There is appropriated \$50,000 from the general fund to the department of public health and human services for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, to provide state medicaid matching funds.

NEW SECTION. **Section 3.** **Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Applicability.** [This act] applies to medicaid appropriations for fiscal year 2025 and all subsequent fiscal years.

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