

PROMOTING THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES THROUGH PUBLIC POLICY

An Act Ensuring Continuous Healthcare Coverage for Youth Who Have Aged-Out of the Department of Children and Families

SECTION BY SECTION SUMMARY

SECTION 1.

• This section will encourage the use of managed health care plans and new and innovative fee-for-service managed health care plan approaches in the delivery of health care services for those youth who are eligible under this legislation.

SECTION 2.

- The Affordable Care Act extended Medicaid eligibility for former foster youth up to age 26. This section codifies this in Massachusetts law and extends this benefit to individuals who were in foster care and enrolled in Medicaid in any state.
- This section also will require enrollment to occur without any interruption in coverage and without the requirement of a new application.
- MassHealth would be required to develop procedures to identify and enroll former foster youth who qualify for this benefit. MassHealth would also be required to work with the Department of Children and Families to conduct outreach to former foster youth who lost MassHealth coverage during the 2013 calendar year as a result of reaching the age of 21, to ensure that they are aware of their ability to reenroll in coverage until their 26th birthday.
- Finally, MassHealth is directed to develop a simplified redetermination form for this program. This form would only be used if the information known to MassHealth is no longer accurate or is materially incomplete.
- Eligibility can only be terminated after MassHealth determines that the recipient is no longer eligible and all due process requirements have been met.