

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2085

To require 12-month continuous, full benefit coverage for pregnant individuals under Medicaid and CHIP, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 16, 2025

Mr. GALLEGO introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To require 12-month continuous, full benefit coverage for pregnant individuals under Medicaid and CHIP, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Postpartum Lifeline
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REQUIRING 12-MONTH CONTINUOUS, FULL BENEFIT**
7 **COVERAGE FOR PREGNANT INDIVIDUALS**
8 **UNDER MEDICAID AND CHIP.**

9 (a) MEDICAID.—Section 1902 of the Social Security
10 Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a)—

2 (A) in paragraph (10), in the matter fol-
 3 lowing subparagraph (G), by striking “(VII) the
 4 medical assistance made available to an indi-
 5 vidual described in subsection (l)(1)(A) who is
 6 eligible for medical assistance only because of
 7 subparagraph (A)(i)(IV) or (A)(ii)(IX) shall be
 8 limited to medical assistance for services related
 9 to pregnancy (including prenatal, delivery,
 10 postpartum, and family planning services),
 11 medical assistance for services related to other
 12 conditions which may complicate pregnancy,
 13 and medical assistance for vaccines described in
 14 section 1905(a)(4)(E) and the administration of
 15 such vaccines during the period described in
 16 such section,” and inserting “(VII) [Re-
 17 pealed],”;

18 (B) in paragraph (86), by striking “and”
 19 at the end;

20 (C) in paragraph (87)(D), by striking the
 21 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

22 (D) by inserting after paragraph (87) the
 23 following new paragraph:

24 “(88) provide that the State plan is in compli-
 25 ance with subsection (e)(16).”; and

1 (2) in subsection (e)(16)—

2 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “At
3 the option of the State, the State plan (or waiv-
4 er of such State plan) may provide” and insert-
5 ing “A State plan (or waiver of such State
6 plan) shall provide”;

7 (B) in subparagraph (B), in the matter
8 preceding clause (i), by striking “by a State
9 making an election under this paragraph” and
10 inserting “under a State plan (or a waiver of
11 such State plan)”; and

12 (C) in subparagraph (C)—

13 (i) by striking “A State making an
14 election under this paragraph” and insert-
15 ing “In the case of a State”; and

16 (ii) by striking “shall also make the
17 election” and inserting “the State shall
18 provide coverage”.

19 (b) CHIP.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (J) of section
21 2107(e)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
22 1397gg(e)(1)), as redesignated by section 105, is
23 amended to read as follows:

24 “(J) Paragraphs (5) and (16) of section
25 1902(e) (relating to the requirement to provide

1 medical assistance under the State plan or
 2 waiver consisting of full benefits during preg-
 3 nancy and throughout the 12-month period that
 4 begins on the last day of the individual’s preg-
 5 nancy and ends on the last day of the month
 6 in which such 12-month period ends).”.

7 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
 8 2112(d)(2)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
 9 1397ll(d)(2)(A)) is amended by striking “the month
 10 in which the 60-day period” and all that follows
 11 through “pursuant to section 2107(e)(1),”.

12 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraphs (2)
 14 and (3), the amendments made by subsections (a)
 15 and (b) shall take effect on the 1st day of the 1st
 16 calendar quarter that begins on or after the date
 17 that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this
 18 Act.

19 (2) EXCEPTION FOR STATE LEGISLATION.—In
 20 the case of a State plan under title XIX of the So-
 21 cial Security Act or a State child health plan under
 22 title XXI of such Act that the Secretary of Health
 23 and Human Services determines requires State legis-
 24 lation in order for the respective plan to meet any
 25 requirement imposed by amendments made by this

1 subsection, the respective plan shall not be regarded
 2 as failing to comply with the requirements of such
 3 title solely on the basis of its failure to meet such
 4 an additional requirement before the 1st day of the
 5 1st calendar quarter beginning after the close of the
 6 1st regular session of the State legislature that be-
 7 gins after the date of enactment of this Act. For
 8 purposes of the previous sentence, in the case of a
 9 State that has a 2-year legislative session, each year
 10 of the session shall be considered to be a separate
 11 regular session of the State legislature.

12 (3) STATE OPTION FOR EARLIER EFFECTIVE
 13 DATE.—A State may elect to have subsection (e)(16)
 14 of section 1902 of the Social Security Act (42
 15 U.S.C. 1396a) and subparagraph (J) of section
 16 2107(e)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
 17 1397gg(e)(1)), as amended by this section, take ef-
 18 fect with respect to the State on the 1st day of any
 19 fiscal quarter that begins before the date described
 20 in paragraph (1) and apply to amounts payable to
 21 the State for expenditures for medical assistance,
 22 child health assistance, or pregnancy-related assist-
 23 ance to pregnant or postpartum individuals fur-
 24 nished on or after such day.

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