

1 SENATE BILL NO. 522  
2 INTRODUCED BY C. POPE

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING MEDICAID LAWS TO REDUCE OR  
5 ELIMINATE WAITING LISTS FOR COVERED SERVICES; REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT TO IMPLEMENT  
6 INITIATIVES TO REDUCE OR ELIMINATE WAITING LISTS; PRIORITIZING THE REDUCTION OR  
7 ELIMINATION OF WAITING LISTS FOR CERTAIN SERVICES; ESTABLISHING REPORTING  
8 REQUIREMENTS; AND PROVIDING A DEFINITION."

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

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12 NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Eliminate or reduce waiting lists for covered services.** (1) The  
13 department shall implement administrative, programmatic, and funding initiatives to reduce or eliminate waiting  
14 lists for services covered under the Montana medicaid program.

- 15 (2) Initiatives may include:
  - 16 (a) applying for medicaid waivers, amendments to existing medicaid waivers, or state plan
  - 17 amendments;
  - 18 (b) recalculating reimbursement rates;
  - 19 (c) providing add-on rates for services with waiting lists; and
  - 20 (d) any additional initiatives that comply with federal policy.
- 21 (3) The department shall prioritize the reduction or elimination of waiting lists for the following types
  - 22 of services:
    - 23 (a) senior and long-term care;
    - 24 (b) behavioral health;
    - 25 (c) dental services;
    - 26 (d) family education and support services; and
    - 27 (e) home-based and community-based services provided through the developmental disabilities
    - 28 program's 0208 medicaid waiver.

- 1           (4)     The department shall provide an annual report to the legislature, in accordance with 5-11-210,  
2 detailing:  
3           (a)     each waiting list for a covered service, including the number of people on the waiting list each  
4 month;  
5           (b)     efforts underway by the department to reduce or eliminate the waiting list; and  
6           (c)     the date the department expects the waiting list to be eliminated.  
7           (5)     For the purposes of this section, "waiting list" means a list of persons enrolled or presumptively  
8 enrolled in the Montana medicaid program who are eligible for a service but cannot receive that service in 90 or  
9 fewer days due to a lack of funding, available providers, enrollment slots, or other service supply issues.

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11           NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an  
12 integral part of Title 53, chapter 6, and the provisions of Title 53, chapter 6, apply to [section 1].

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