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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

A N A C T

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Introduced By: Senators Metts, Jabour, Doyle, Crowley, and Pichardo

Date Introduced: March 10, 2011

Referred To: Senate Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 40-8 of the General Laws entitled "Medical Assistance" is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following sections:

3 **40-8-20.3. Findings.** -- The general assembly hereby finds and declares that the oral
4 health of Medicaid-eligible children and adults with disabling conditions in this state is
5 unacceptably poor. Access to dental care statewide is insufficient for these populations. Private
6 dentists and community clinics who serve Medicaid residents do not receive sufficient
7 reimbursement to cover the costs of care.

8 **40-8-20.4. Access to oral healthcare for Medicaid-eligible individuals with disabling**
9 **conditions.** -- The general assembly directs the department to provide adequate reimbursement
10 for oral health services provided to Medicaid-eligible individuals with developmentally and
11 physically disabling conditions.

12 **40-8-20.5. Appropriation.** -- The general assembly shall annually appropriate to the
13 department of human services such funds, as it deems necessary, to enable the department to
14 carry out the purposes of sections 40-8-20.3 and 40-8-20.4.

15 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

- 1 This act would require the general assembly to appropriate funds to allow the department
- 2 of human services to provide sufficient reimbursement for oral health services for Medicaid-
- 3 eligible individuals with developmentally and physically disabling conditions.
- 4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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