

**First Regular Session
Seventy-second General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 19-0593.01 Shelby Ross x4510

HOUSE BILL 19-1038

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Duran and Lontine,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Ginal and Story,

House Committees

Public Health Care & Human Services
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING DENTAL SERVICES FOR PREGNANT WOMEN COVERED**
102 **UNDER THE CHILDREN'S BASIC HEALTH PLAN, AND, IN**
103 **CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

Current law requires the medical services board to include dental services for eligible children enrolled in a children's basic health plan. The bill requires the board to include dental services to all eligible enrollees, which includes children and pregnant women.

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly
3 finds and declares that nearly 900 pregnant women covered under the
4 children's basic health plan do not have coverage for dental services.
5 Approximately 25% of all pregnant women in Colorado lacked dental
6 insurance in 2016, and roughly 18% of expecting mothers reported not
7 going to the dentist because they could not afford to go.

8 (2) The general assembly further finds and declares that during
9 pregnancy, changes to a woman's diet and hormone levels increase her
10 risk for a number of oral health conditions, including dental caries,
11 gingivitis, and periodontal disease. Periodontal disease in pregnant
12 women has been linked to adverse birth outcomes, such as pre-term birth
13 and low newborn birth weights.

14 (3) Studies show that a mother's prenatal oral health has lifelong
15 effects on her child's oral health because the bacteria associated with poor
16 oral health can pass from mother to child with the potential to cause
17 dental caries in infancy and early childhood. Additionally, tooth decay
18 remains the most common chronic condition in childhood and
19 adolescence, and poor oral health among children has been linked to poor
20 performance in school and increased absences.

21 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25.5-8-107, **amend**
22 (1) introductory portion and (1)(a)(II) as follows:

23 **25.5-8-107. Duties of the department - schedule of services -**
24 **premiums - copayments - subsidies - purchase of childhood**
25 **immunizations.** (1) In addition to any other duties pursuant to this ~~article~~
26 ARTICLE 8, the department ~~shall have~~ HAS the following duties:

1 (a) (II) In addition to the items specified in ~~subparagraph (I) of~~
2 ~~this paragraph (a)~~ SUBSECTION (1)(a)(I) OF THIS SECTION and any
3 additional items approved by the medical services board, on and after
4 January 1, 2001, the medical services board shall include dental services
5 FOR ALL ENROLLED CHILDREN, AND ON AND AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2019, FOR
6 ALL ENROLLED PREGNANT WOMEN, in the schedule of health care services.
7 ~~upon a finding by the board that:~~

8 (A) ~~An adequate number of dentists are willing to provide~~
9 ~~services to eligible children; and~~

10 (B) ~~The financial resources available to the program are sufficient~~
11 ~~to fund such services.~~

12 **SECTION 3. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2019-20 state fiscal
13 year, \$66,955 is appropriated to the department of health care policy and
14 financing. This appropriation consists of \$45,267 from the children's
15 basic health plan trust created in section 25.5-8-105 (1), C.R.S., and
16 \$21,688 from the healthcare affordability and sustainability fee cash fund
17 created in section 25.5-4-402.4 (5)(a), C.R.S. To implement this act, the
18 department may use this appropriation as follows:

19 (a) \$22,273 from the children's basic health plan trust for
20 medicaid management information system maintenance and projects;

21 (b) \$10,310 from the children's basic health plan trust for
22 children's basic health plan administration; and

23 (c) \$34,372, which consists of \$12,684 from the children's basic
24 health plan trust and \$21,688 from the healthcare affordability and
25 sustainability fee cash fund, for children's basic health plan medical and
26 dental costs, which amount is subject to the "(H)" notation as defined in
27 the annual general appropriation act for the same fiscal year.

1 (2) For the 2019-20 state fiscal year, the general assembly
2 anticipates that the department of health care policy and financing will
3 receive \$372,470 in federal funds to implement this act. The
4 appropriation in subsection (1) of this section is based on the assumption
5 that the department will receive this amount of federal funds to be used
6 as follows:

7 (a) \$200,459 for medicaid management information system
8 maintenance and projects;

9 (b) \$39,690 for children's basic health plan administration; and

10 (c) \$132,321 for children's basic health plan medical and dental
11 costs.

12 **SECTION 4. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
13 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
14 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.