



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB0004

Introduced 1/9/2025, by Rep. La Shawn K. Ford

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

305 ILCS 5/5-5.12g new

Amends the Medical Assistance Article of the Illinois Public Aid Code. Requires the Department of Healthcare and Family Services to conduct a study on managed care pharmacy access standards. Provides that the study shall review the current access standards, with a focus on disproportionately impacted areas. Requires the Department to seek input from consumers of pharmacy services. Requires the Department to report its findings to the Governor and the General Assembly by January 1, 2026 and to publish the report on the Department's website. Provides that any retail pharmacy that is enrolled as an eligible retail pharmacy provider in the medical assistance program and is not sanctioned under investigation for fraud, waste, or abuse shall provide retail pharmacy services to any medical assistance recipient who resides in the same zip code as the pharmacy, regardless of whether the retail pharmacy is contracted to provide pharmacy services for the managed care organization that the recipient is enrolled with. Requires the managed care organization to pay the retail pharmacy the managed care organization's standard contractual rate. Effective immediately.

LRB104 03381 KTG 13403 b

1 AN ACT concerning public aid.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Public Aid Code is amended by
5 adding Section 5-5.12g as follows:

6 (305 ILCS 5/5-5.12g new)

7 Sec. 5-5.12g. Pharmacy services; report on access
8 standards.

9 (a) The Department shall conduct a study on managed care
10 pharmacy access standards. The study shall review the current
11 access standards, with a focus on disproportionately impacted
12 areas. The Department shall seek input from consumers of
13 pharmacy services. The Department shall report its findings to
14 the Governor and the General Assembly by January 1, 2026. The
15 Department shall post the report on its website.

16 (b) Any retail pharmacy that is enrolled as an eligible
17 retail pharmacy provider in the medical assistance program and
18 is not sanctioned under investigation for fraud, waste, or
19 abuse shall provide retail pharmacy services to any medical
20 assistance recipient who resides in the same zip code as the
21 pharmacy, regardless of whether the retail pharmacy is
22 contracted to provide pharmacy services for the managed care
23 organization that the recipient is enrolled with. The managed

1 care organization shall pay such a retail pharmacy the managed
2 care organization's standard contractual rate.

3 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
4 becoming law.