



101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

HB4959

Introduced 2/18/2020, by Rep. Lamont J. Robinson, Jr.

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act
30 ILCS 105/5.930 new

Creates the Medicaid Technical Assistance Center Act. Requires the Department of Healthcare and Family Services to establish a Medicaid Technical Assistance Center (Center). Provides that the Center shall operate as a cross-system educational resource to strengthen the business infrastructure of health care provider organizations in Illinois to ultimately increase the capacity, access, and quality of Illinois' Medicaid managed care program, HealthChoice Illinois. Requires the Center to be established within the Department's Office of Medicaid Innovation. Requires the Center to collaborate with public and private partners throughout the State to identify, establish, and maintain best practices necessary for health providers to ensure their capacity to participate in HealthChoice Illinois. Requires the Center to: (i) create and administer ongoing trainings for health care providers; (ii) maintain an independent, easy to navigate, and up-to-date website that includes, but is not limited to, recorded training archives, a training calendar, and provider resources and tools; and (iii) host regional learning collaboratives that will supplement the Center's training curriculum to bring together groups of stakeholders to share issues, best practices, and escalate issues. Provides that the Department, to the extent allowable under federal law, shall maximize federal financial participation for any moneys appropriated to the Department for the Medicaid Technical Assistance Center. Provides that any federal financial participation funds obtained shall be used for the further development and expansion of the Medicaid Technical Assistance Center. Amends the State Finance Act. Creates the Medicaid Technical Assistance Center Fund. Effective immediately.

LRB101 16789 KTG 66184 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

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 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Medicaid Technical Assistance Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions. As used in this Act:

7 "Behavioral health providers" means mental health and
8 substance use disorder providers.

9 "Department" means the Department of Healthcare and Family
10 Services.

11 "Health care providers" means organizations who provide
12 physical, mental, substance use disorder, or social
13 determinant of health services.

14 "Network adequacy" means a Medicaid beneficiaries' ability
15 to access all necessary provider types within time and distance
16 standards as defined in the Managed Care Organization model
17 contract.

18 "Service deserts" means geographic areas of the State with
19 no or limited Medicaid providers that accept Medicaid.

20 "Social determinants of health" means any conditions that
21 impact an individual's health, including, but not limited to,
22 access to healthy food, safety, education, and housing
23 stability.

1 "Stakeholders" means, but are not limited to, health care
2 providers, advocacy organizations, managed care organizations,
3 Medicaid beneficiaries, and State and city partners.

4 Section 10. Medicaid Technical Assistance Center. The
5 Department of Healthcare and Family Services shall establish a
6 Medicaid Technical Assistance Center. The Medicaid Technical
7 Assistance Center shall operate as a cross-system educational
8 resource to strengthen the business infrastructure of health
9 care provider organizations in Illinois to ultimately increase
10 the capacity, access, and quality of Illinois' Medicaid managed
11 care program, HealthChoice Illinois. The Medicaid Technical
12 Assistance Center shall be established within the Department's
13 Office of Medicaid Innovation.

14 Section 15. Collaboration. The Medicaid Technical
15 Assistance Center shall collaborate with public and private
16 partners throughout the State to identify, establish, and
17 maintain best practices necessary for health providers to
18 ensure their capacity to participate in HealthChoice Illinois.
19 The Medicaid Technical Assistance Center shall administer the
20 following:

21 (1) Trainings: The Medicaid Technical Assistance
22 Center shall create and administer ongoing trainings for
23 health care providers. Trainings may be subcontracted. The
24 Medicaid Technical Assistance Center shall provide

1 in-person and web-based trainings. In-person training
2 shall be conducted throughout the State. All trainings must
3 be free of charge. The Medicaid Technical Assistance Center
4 shall administer post-training surveys and incorporate
5 feedback. Training content and delivery must be reflective
6 of Illinois providers' varying levels of readiness,
7 resources, and client populations.

8 (2) Web-based resources: The Medicaid Technical
9 Assistance Center shall maintain an independent, easy to
10 navigate, and up-to-date website that includes, but is not
11 limited to: recorded training archives, a training
12 calendar, provider resources and tools, up-to-date
13 explanations of Department and managed care organization
14 guidance, a running database of frequently asked questions
15 and contact information for key staff members of the
16 Department, managed care organizations, and the Medicaid
17 Technical Assistance Center.

18 (3) Learning collaboratives: The Medicaid Technical
19 Assistance Center shall host regional learning
20 collaboratives that will supplement the Medicaid Technical
21 Assistance Center training curriculum to bring together
22 groups of stakeholders to share issues, best practices, and
23 escalate issues. Leadership of the Department and managed
24 care organizations shall attend learning collaboratives on
25 a quarterly basis.

26 (4) Network adequacy reports: The Medicaid Technical

1 Assistance Center shall publicly release a report on
2 Medicaid provider network adequacy within the first 3 years
3 of implementation and annually thereafter. The reports
4 shall identify provider service deserts and health care
5 disparities by race and ethnicity.

6 Section 20. Federal financial participation. The
7 Department of Healthcare and Family Services, to the extent
8 allowable under federal law, shall maximize federal financial
9 participation for any moneys appropriated to the Department for
10 the Medicaid Technical Assistance Center. Any federal
11 financial participation funds obtained in accordance with this
12 Section shall be used for the further development and expansion
13 of the Medicaid Technical Assistance Center. All federal
14 financial participation funds obtained under this subsection
15 shall be deposited into the Medicaid Technical Assistance
16 Center Fund created under Section 25.

17 Section 25. Medicaid Technical Assistance Center Fund. The
18 Medicaid Technical Assistance Center Fund is created as a
19 special fund in the State treasury. The Fund shall consist of
20 any moneys appropriated to the Department of Healthcare and
21 Family Services for the purposes of this Act and any federal
22 financial participation funds obtained as provided under
23 Section 20. Moneys in the Fund shall be used for carrying out
24 the purposes of this Act and for no other purpose. All interest

1 earned on the moneys in the Fund shall be deposited into the
2 Fund.

3 Section 90. The State Finance Act is amended by adding
4 Section 5.930 as follows:

5 (30 ILCS 105/5.930 new)

6 Sec. 5.930. The Medicaid Technical Assistance Center Fund.

7 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
8 becoming law.