



## 102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

HB3986

Introduced 3/4/2021, by Rep. Lamont J. Robinson, Jr.

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act  
30 ILCS 105/5.935 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.

LRB102 17188 KTG 22640 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 beneficiary's ability  
15 to access all necessary provider types within time and  
16 distance standards as defined in the Managed Care Organization  
17 model 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  
11 managed care program, HealthChoice Illinois. The Medicaid  
12 Technical Assistance Center shall be established within the  
13 Department's 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  
3 must be free of charge. The Medicaid Technical Assistance  
4 Center shall administer post-training surveys and  
5 incorporate feedback. Training content and delivery must  
6 be reflective of Illinois providers' varying levels of  
7 readiness, 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,  
23 and escalate issues. Leadership of the Department and  
24 managed care organizations shall attend learning  
25 collaboratives on 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  
3 years of implementation and annually thereafter. The  
4 reports shall identify provider service deserts and health  
5 care 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  
10 for 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  
13 expansion of the Medicaid Technical Assistance Center. All  
14 federal financial participation funds obtained under this  
15 subsection shall be deposited into the Medicaid Technical  
16 Assistance 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 5.935 as follows:

5 (30 ILCS 105/5.935 new)

6 Sec. 5.935. The Medicaid Technical Assistance Center Fund.

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