1	MEDICAID BENEFIT AMENDMENTS
2	2003 GENERAL SESSION
3	STATE OF UTAH
4	Sponsor: Rebecca D. Lockhart
5	This act modifies the Medicaid Assistance Act. The act authorizes the department to
6	develop a preferred drug program. The act establishes certain requirements for the
7	preferred drug program and requires legislative oversight before the preferred drug
8	program is implemented. The act clarifies that the department must implement the
9	Medicaid program through the administrative rule process. The act requires the
10	department to submit a proposed administrative rule that would modify Medicaid
11	benefits, services, or reimbursement rates to either the Legislative Executive
12	Appropriations Committee or the Health and Human Services Appropriation
13	Subcommittee before adopting the rule.
14	This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:
15	AMENDS:
16	26-18-2.3, as enacted by Chapter 21, Laws of Utah 1988
17	26-18-3, as last amended by Chapter 316, Laws of Utah 2000
18	ENACTS:
19	26-18-2.4 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
20	Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
21	Section 1. Section 26-18-2.3 is amended to read:
22	26-18-2.3. Division responsibilities Emphasis Periodic assessment.
23	(1) In accordance with the requirements of Title XIX of the Social Security Act and
24	applicable federal regulations, the division is responsible for the effective and impartial
25	administration of this chapter in an efficient, economical manner. The division shall establish,
26	on a statewide basis, a program to safeguard against unnecessary or inappropriate use of
27	Medicaid services, excessive payments, and unnecessary or inappropriate hospital admissions

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28	or lengths of stay. The division shall deny any provider claim for services that fail to meet
29	criteria established by the division concerning medical necessity or appropriateness. The
30	division shall place its emphasis on high quality care to recipients in the most economical and
31	cost-effective manner possible, with regard to both publicly and privately provided services.
32	(2) The division shall implement and utilize cost-containment methods, where
33	possible, which may include, but are not limited to:
34	(a) prepayment and postpayment review systems to determine if utilization is
35	reasonable and necessary;
36	(b) preadmission certification of nonemergency admissions;
37	(c) mandatory outpatient, rather than inpatient, surgery in appropriate cases;
38	(d) second surgical opinions;
39	(e) procedures for encouraging the use of outpatient services;
40	(f) consistent with Sections 28-18-2.4 and 58-17a-605.1, a preferred drug program;
41	[(f)] (g) coordination of benefits; and
42	[(g)] (h) review and exclusion of providers who are not cost effective or who have
43	abused the Medicaid program, in accordance with the procedures and provisions of federal law
44	and regulation.
45	(3) The director of the division shall periodically assess the cost effectiveness and
46	health implications of the existing Medicaid program, and consider alternative approaches to
47	the provision of covered health and medical services through the Medicaid program, in order to
48	reduce unnecessary or unreasonable utilization.
49	Section 2. Section 26-18-2.4 is enacted to read:
50	<u>26-18-2.4.</u> Medicaid Preferred Drug Program.
51	(1) A preferred drug program developed by the department under Subsection 26-18-2.3
52	<u>(2)(f) shall:</u>
53	(a) be based on clinical and cost-related factors; and
54	(b) require prior approval before paying for a drug that is not included on the preferred
55	drug list, unless the department receives a rebate from the manufacturer of the nonpreferred
56	drug in an amount that is acceptable to the department.
57	(2) (a) The department shall develop the preferred drug program for fiscal year
58	2003-04, but may not implement the program unless:

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59	(i) the department reports its progress on implementing the program, including any
60	proposed rules to the Legislative Executive Appropriations Committee during the 2003
61	interim; and
62	(ii) receives approval of the program from the Legislative Executive Appropriations
63	Committee.
64	(b) The department may use the preferred drug program developed and approved under
65	Subsection (2)(a) in subsequent fiscal years.
66	(3) The department shall report to the Legislative Health and Human Services Interim
67	Committee by August 30, 2003, and to the Legislative Health and Human Services
68	Appropriations Subcommittee during the 2004 General Session regarding the department's
69	implementation of the preferred drug program.
70	Section 3. Section 26-18-3 is amended to read:
71	26-18-3. Administration of Medicaid program by department Disciplinary
72	measures and sanctions Funds collected.
73	(1) The department shall be the single state agency responsible for the administration
74	of the Medicaid program in connection with the United States Department of Health and
75	Human Services pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act.
76	(2) (a) The department shall [develop implementing policy] implement the Medicaid
77	program through administrative rules in conformity with this chapter, Title 63, Chapter 46a,
78	Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the requirements of Title XIX, and applicable federal
79	regulations.
80	(b) The department may not adopt policies or standards implementing the Medicaid
81	program under this chapter that do not comply with Title 63, Chapter 46a, Utah Administrative
82	Rulemaking Act.
83	(c) (i) The rules adopted under Subsection (2)(a) shall include in addition to other rules
84	necessary to implement the program, the standards used by the department for determining
85	eligibility for Medicaid services, the services and benefits to be covered by the Medicaid
86	program, and reimbursement rates for providers under the Medicaid program.
87	(ii) If the department implements emergency rules, or revises rules under Title 63,
88	Chapter 46a, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, that have the effect of modifying a benefit
89	or service, or reimbursement to a provider under the state Medicaid program, the department

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90	shall, prior to adopting the revised or emergency rule, report to either the Legislative Executive
91	Appropriations Committee or the Legislative Health and Human Services Appropriations
92	Subcommittee and include in the report:
93	(A) the proposed change in services or reimbursement;
94	(B) the effect of an increase or decrease in services or benefits on individuals and
95	families;
96	(C) the degree to which any proposed cut may result in cost-shifting to more expensive
97	services in health or human service programs; and
98	(D) the effect of any proposed increase of benefits or reimbursement on current and
99	future appropriations from the Legislature to the department.
100	(iii) Any emergency or temporary rules adopted by the department under Subsection
101	(2)(c)(ii) are subject to review and reauthorization by the Legislature in accordance with
102	Section 63-46a-11.5.
103	(3) The department may, in its discretion, contract with the Department of Human
104	Services or other qualified agencies for services in connection with the administration of the
105	Medicaid program, including but not limited to the determination of the eligibility of
106	individuals for the program, recovery of overpayments, and enforcement of fraud and abuse
107	laws, consistent with Section 26-20-13, to the extent permitted by law and quality control
108	services.
109	(4) The department shall provide, by rule, disciplinary measures and sanctions for
110	Medicaid providers who fail to comply with the rules and procedures of the program, provided
111	that sanctions imposed administratively may not extend beyond:
112	(a) termination from the program;February 18, 2003
113	(b) recovery of claim reimbursements incorrectly paid; and
114	(c) those specified in Section 1919 of Title XIX of the federal Social Security Act.
115	(5) Funds collected as a result of a sanction imposed under Section 1919 of Title XIX
116	of the federal Social Security Act shall be deposited in the General Fund as nonlapsing
117	dedicated credits to be used by the division in accordance with the requirements of that section.
118	(6) (a) In determining whether an applicant or recipient is eligible for a service or
119	benefit under this part or Chapter 40, Utah Children's Health Insurance [Program] Act, the
120	department shall, if Subsection (6)(b) is satisfied, exclude from consideration one passenger

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121	vehicle designated by the applicant or recipient.
122	(b) Before Subsection (6)(a) may be applied:
123	(i) the federal government must:
124	(A) determine that Subsection (6)(a) may be implemented within the state's existing
125	public assistance-related waivers as of January 1, 1999;
126	(B) extend a waiver to the state permitting the implementation of Subsection (6)(a); or
127	(C) determine that the state's waivers that permit dual eligibility determinations for
128	cash assistance and Medicaid are no longer valid; and
129	(ii) the department must determine that Subsection (6)(a) can be implemented within
130	existing funding.

Legislative Review Note as of 2-17-03 9:34 AM

A limited legal review of this legislation raises no obvious constitutional or statutory concerns.

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel