

**Representative Stephen D. Clark** proposes the following substitute bill:

**MEDICAID DENTAL AND PHYSICIAN  
REIMBURSEMENT AMENDMENTS**

2006 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Steven R. Mascaro**

Senate Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill establishes a statutory requirement, within appropriations from the Legislature, to reimburse dentists providing children's Medicaid dental services at 75% of the Mountain Region fee schedule for dental services, and to reimburse physicians providing Medicaid services at 75% of the average rate for private payers and Medicare based on the Medicaid Reimbursement Comparisons to Medicare and Private Pay.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

▶ enacts a statute:

- to establish a standard for reimbursing dentists providing Medicaid services for children; and
- establish a minimum standard for reimbursing physicians providing Medicaid services.

**Monies Appropriated in this Bill:**

This bill appropriates:

- ▶ as an ongoing appropriation subject to future budget constraints, \$5.7 million from the General Fund for fiscal year 2006-07 to the Department of Health to fund \$2.7 million for the children's dental services in the Medicaid program, and to fund \$3

27 million for an increase in Medicaid reimbursement rates for physicians.

28 **Other Special Clauses:**

29 None

30 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

31 ENACTS:

32 **26-18-3.2**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



34 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

35 Section 1. Section **26-18-3.2** is enacted to read:

36 **26-18-3.2. Dental and physician services -- Medicaid program.**

37 (1) The purpose of this section is to:

38 (a) increase the number of dentists that will be able to financially support dental  
39 services to children in the Medicaid program and increase access to dental services for children  
40 on Medicaid; and

41 (b) increase the number of physicians that will be able to financially support medical  
42 services to individuals in the Medicaid program and increase access to medical services for  
43 individuals on Medicaid.

44 (2) Within appropriations from the Legislature, the department may amend the state  
45 plan for medical assistance to establish and maintain a Medicaid reimbursement rate:

46 (a) for dental services for children at 75% of the median fee of the Mountain Region as  
47 determined by the American Dental Association fee schedule surveys; and

48 (b) for physician services for individuals on Medicaid, a minimum of 75% of the  
49 average reimbursement rate for private payers and Medicare based on the Medicaid  
50 Reimbursement Comparison to Medicare and Private Pay.

51 Section 2. **Appropriation.**

52 As an ongoing appropriation subject to future budget constraints, there is appropriated  
53 from the General Fund for fiscal year 2006-07, \$5.7 million to the Department of Health, \$2.7  
54 million of which shall be used to raise the reimbursement rate, pursuant to Subsection  
55 26-18-3.2(1)(a), for dental services for children in the Medicaid program, and \$3 million of  
56 which shall be used to raise the reimbursement rate for physicians, pursuant to Subsection  
57 26-18-3.2(1)(b).

