

Senate Bill 163

By: Senators Ligon, Jr. of the 3rd, Albers of the 56th, Millar of the 40th, Loudermilk of the 14th, McKoon of the 29th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 7 of Chapter 4 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to medical assistance generally, so as to require the Department of Community  
3 Health to study and identify options for Medicaid reform; to provide for a report on findings  
4 and recommendations; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other  
5 purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 7 of Chapter 4 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
9 medical assistance generally, is amended by revising Code Section 49-4-156, which is  
10 reserved, as follows:

11 "49-4-156.

12 (a) The board shall examine and identify options for reforming Medicaid in Georgia to  
13 bring about significant savings to the state, which may include, but not be limited to:

14 (1) Enrolling all categories of Medicaid members in managed care programs and  
15 expanding on the managed care concept by incorporating value based purchasing,  
16 encouraging the use of medical homes, and increasing focus on prevention, among other  
17 changes;

18 (2) Enrolling some categories of Medicaid members in managed care programs that  
19 utilize similar measures used by commercial insurers to encourage healthy behavior,  
20 including copayments, deductibles, health rewards accounts, and incentives; provided,  
21 however, that this may require a federal waiver; and

22 (3) Requiring managed care programs as described in paragraph (1) of this subsection  
23 to include accountable care organizations and patient centered medical homes in their  
24 provider networks to improve coordination of care and appropriate use of services.

25 (b) No later than December 31, 2013, the board shall provide a report to the Governor,  
26 Speaker of the House of Representatives, President of the Senate, and each member of the

27 House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Health and Human  
28 Services Committee on such findings and recommendations. Reserved."

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**SECTION 2.**

30 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.