



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 444

January Session, 2025

Senate Bill No. 1481

Senate, April 2, 2025

The Committee on Human Services reported through SEN. LESSER of the 9th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION IN SERVICES FUNDED UNDER MEDICAID.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Social
2 Services shall require, as a condition of receiving Medicaid
3 reimbursement, that a provider agree, in writing, not to discriminate
4 against any persons whose rights are protected under chapter 814c of
5 the general statutes. The commissioner may withhold Medicaid
6 payments from any provider determined to have engaged in
7 discrimination under the provisions of chapter 814c of the general
8 statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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HS *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Social Services, Dept.	GF - Potential Savings	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in potential savings to the Department of Social Services (DSS) associated with lower Medicaid payments due to providers not meeting the provisions of the bill.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 1481*****AN ACT PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION IN SERVICES FUNDED UNDER MEDICAID.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) commissioner to require providers, as a condition of receiving Medicaid reimbursement, to agree in writing not to discriminate against people whose rights are protected under the state's human rights statutes. These laws prohibit discrimination based on, among other things, race, national origin, creed, sex, gender identity or expression, color, veteran status, and domestic violence victim status.

The bill allows DSS to withhold Medicaid payments from any provider who is determined to have discriminated in violation of these laws. However, the bill does not specify which entity is responsible for making this determination.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND***DSS Provider Agreements***

Under current practice, providers enrolling in Medicaid must sign agreements with DSS requiring them to, among other things, comply with federal and state anti-discrimination laws as a condition of receiving Medicaid reimbursement.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 16 Nay 6 (03/13/2025)