
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)