

~~Medical Assistance Program eligibility standards, arrived in the United States on or after August 22, 1996, and do not qualify for federally funded Medical Assistance Program coverage or Maryland Children's Health Program coverage.~~

15-142.

THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE BUDGET BILL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008 AT LEAST \$3,000,000 IN GENERAL FUND STATE SUPPORT FOR AN IMMIGRANT HEALTH INITIATIVE TO PROVIDE HEALTH CARE SERVICES FOR ALL LEGAL IMMIGRANT CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS AND PREGNANT WOMEN WHO MEET PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS AND ARRIVED IN THE UNITED STATES ON OR AFTER AUGUST 22, 1996.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) On or before January 1, 2007, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall report to the Governor and the General Assembly in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on the immigrant health initiative established under the Fiscal Year 2007 Budget Bill (Senate Bill 110).

(b) The report shall include:

- (1) a description of the immigrant health initiative;
- (2) the number of individuals served under the initiative;
- (3) the types of health care services provided under the initiative;
- (4) a comparison of the number of children and pregnant women served and the health care services provided through the immigrant health initiative with the services provided under the Medical Assistance Program to legal immigrant children and pregnant women prior to 2005; and
- (5) if inequities in services are identified under item (4) of this subsection, recommendations for methods to provide health care services that are equivalent to the health care services provided under the Medical Assistance Program to legal immigrant children and pregnant women prior to 2005.

(c) It is the intent of the General Assembly that if funds are available, \$7,000,000 be provided for the immigrant health program in fiscal 2008.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

Approved May 2, 2006.