

House Bill 866

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 4 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, the "Georgia
2 Public Assistance Act of 1965," so as to provide for statements of purpose; to provide for the
3 provision of certain dental services to foster children; to provide for certain diagnostic
4 services; to provide for certain preventive services; to provide for the extension of Medicaid
5 services to former foster children; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Chapter 4 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, the "Georgia Public
9 Assistance Act of 1965," is amended by revising Article 5 as follows:

10 "ARTICLE 5

11 ~~"Reserved:~~

12 ~~49-4-100.~~

13 ~~(a) The purpose of this Code section is to codify the delivery of Medicaid dental services~~
14 ~~to foster children pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Section 1396(d)(r)(3).~~

15 ~~(b) Dental services, including diagnostic dental services, preventative dental services,~~
16 ~~restorative dental services, endodontics, periodontics and prosthodontics, oral surgeries,~~
17 ~~and general anesthesia, shall be administered to foster children at intervals which meet~~
18 ~~reasonable standards of dental practice, as determined by reputable or recognized dental~~
19 ~~organizations involved in child health care, and at such other intervals indicated as~~
20 ~~medically necessary, to determine the existence of a suspected illness or condition. Such~~
21 ~~services shall include, without limitation, relief of pain and infections, restoration of teeth,~~
22 ~~and maintenance of dental health.~~

23 ~~(c) Diagnostic services shall be provided as provided in this subsection. Each provider~~
24 ~~shall:~~

1 (1) Perform a comprehensive oral evaluation for every child entering the Georgia foster
2 care system;

3 (2) Perform limited problem-focused oral evaluations for said foster children when
4 needed;

5 (3) For each calendar year, perform either:

6 (A) Semiannual oral evaluations; or

7 (B) One comprehensive oral evaluation and one periodic oral evaluation in each
8 calendar year;

9 (4) Undertake a complete series of intraoral radiographs or a bitewing series of
10 radiographs of diagnostic quality using panoramic film; and

11 (5) Study the models or diagnostic casts of the foster children under the provider's care.

12 (d) Preventive services shall include:

13 (1) Semiannual prophylaxis treatments with fluoride each calendar year by a provider;

14 (2) Occlusal sealants as needed; and

15 (3) The use of dental space maintainers.

16 49-4-101.

17 (a) The purpose of this Code section is to expand the coverage of the Medicaid program
18 to former foster children pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Section 1396a(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XVII).

19 (b) The state plan for Medicaid shall be expanded to cover individuals who:

20 (1) Are under 21 years of age; and

21 (2) Were in the custody of the Department of Family and Children Services on their
22 eighteenth birthday or voluntarily signed themselves out of care on or before their
23 eighteenth birthday.

24 (c) Individuals who meet the requirements of subsection (b) of this Code section shall
25 automatically be enrolled in the state Medicaid program.

26 (d) An individual who is qualified under this Code section may not be determined to be
27 ineligible to enroll in the program based on diagnosis or preexisting condition."

28 **SECTION 2.**

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