

House Bill 163 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Cooper of the 43<sup>rd</sup>, Gaines of the 117<sup>th</sup>, Dempsey of the 13<sup>th</sup>, Frye of the 118<sup>th</sup>, Lumsden of the 12<sup>th</sup>, 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 direct the Department of Community Health  
3 to submit a state plan amendment to implement express lane eligibility in Medicaid and the  
4 PeachCare for Kids Program; to direct the Department of Human Services to automatically  
5 enroll and renew eligible children in Medicaid and the PeachCare for Kids Program, based  
6 on application data received for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; to provide  
7 for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Article 7 of Chapter 4 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
11 medical assistance generally, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

12 "49-4-159.1.

13 (a) No later than June 30, 2022, the department shall submit a state plan amendment to the  
14 federal Department of Health and Human Services to implement express lane eligibility in  
15 accordance with section 1902(e)(13) of the federal Social Security Act to determine  
16 whether a child meets one or more of the eligibility criteria for and enroll the child in

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17 Medicaid and the PeachCare for Kids Program. Such state plan amendment shall include,  
18 but not be limited to, reliance on a finding made by the Division of Family and Children  
19 Services of the Department of Human Services in determining eligibility of applicants for  
20 the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and other programs as identified  
21 by the department and the Division of Family and Children Services of the Department of  
22 Human Services.

23 (b) Upon approval of a state plan amendment, the Division of Family and Children  
24 Services of the Department of Human Services shall employ express lane eligibility by  
25 evaluating data received from applicants for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance  
26 Program and other programs, as identified by the department and the Division of Family  
27 and Children Services of the Department of Human Services, to determine eligibility for  
28 Medicaid and the PeachCare for Kids Program and to provide for automatic enrollment and  
29 renewal of eligible children in Medicaid and the PeachCare for Kids Program."

30

## **SECTION 2.**

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