

HB 1625 -- NOTICE OF ELIGIBILITY FOR THE STATE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM

SPONSOR: Nance

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Insurance Policy by a vote of 11 to 0.

Beginning January 1, 2010, this bill requires the reporting of health insurance information on Missouri income tax returns for all dependent children claimed. If any child does not have health care coverage and the taxpayer's household income does not exceed the highest income level under the federal poverty guidelines, the Department of Revenue must provide notice of the possible eligibility for the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) and enrollment information as developed by the Department of Social Services to the taxpayer.

The Department of Revenue, in collaboration with the Department of Social Services, must annually report to the Governor and the General Assembly on the number of families claiming a state exemption for dependent children, the number claiming a state exemption for dependent children who indicate they have no dependent health coverage, the number receiving information on SCHIP, and the number who applied for SCHIP after the notification.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Cost on General Revenue Fund of More than \$208,778 in FY 2011, More than \$243,255 in FY 2012, and More than \$245,341 in FY 2013. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2011, FY 2012, and FY 2013.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will help more eligible children receive health insurance coverage. Currently, there are approximately 130,000 children without coverage, approximately 87,000 of whom could be eligible for the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Nance; Scott Gee, Citizens for Missouri Children; and Partnership for Children.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.