

# STATE OF NEW YORK

1485

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

January 15, 2019

Introduced by M. of A. ORTIZ -- read once and referred to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to in-utero exposure to tobacco smoke prevention and including certain respiratory diseases within disease management demonstration programs; and to amend the insurance law, in relation to health insurers' wellness programs

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The public health law is amended by adding a new article 13-I to read as follows:

### ARTICLE 13-I

#### IN-UTERO EXPOSURE TO TOBACCO SMOKE PREVENTION

#### Section 1399-xx. In-utero tobacco exposure prevention.

##### 1399-yy. Programs.

§ 1399-xx. In-utero tobacco exposure prevention. 1. Appropriate healthcare providers and pregnancy programs shall be encouraged to distribute information on the adverse health effects of smoking during and after pregnancy for both firsthand and secondhand tobacco smoke. Such adverse effects to the infant include lower birth rates, higher incidence of asthma and obesity, and cognitive and developmental damage.

2. Appropriate healthcare providers shall be encouraged to monitor expectant mothers' smoking statuses and to offer to expectant mothers tailored services, counseling and discussion on the advantages to quitting tobacco smoking during and after their pregnancy.

§ 1399-yy. Programs. The following programs shall be added to existing tobacco control programs for pregnant women or to other pregnancy related programs:

1. Carbon monoxide monitoring;

2. Referrals for smoking cessation for household members;

3. Ongoing support by counseling and educational materials; and

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD05828-01-9

1 4. Financial incentives including, but not limited to, items such as  
2 diapers or other baby care products or coupons to encourage expectant  
3 mothers to quit smoking for two or more weeks.

4 § 2. Subdivisions 2 and 4 of section 2111 of the public health law, as  
5 added by section 21 of part C of chapter 58 of the laws of 2004, are  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 2. The department shall establish the criteria by which individuals  
8 will be identified as eligible for enrollment in the demonstration  
9 programs. Persons eligible for enrollment in the disease management  
10 demonstration program shall be limited to individuals who: receive  
11 medical assistance pursuant to title eleven of article five of the  
12 social services law and may be eligible for benefits pursuant to title  
13 18 of the social security act (Medicare); are not enrolled in a Medicaid  
14 managed care plan, including individuals who are not required or not  
15 eligible to participate in Medicaid managed care programs pursuant to  
16 section three hundred sixty-four-j of the social services law; are diag-  
17 nosed with chronic health problems as may be specified by the entity  
18 undertaking the demonstration program, including, but not limited to one  
19 or more of the following: congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive  
20 pulmonary disease, asthma, emphysema, chronic bronchitis, other respir-  
21 atory diseases, diabetes or other chronic health conditions as may be  
22 specified by the department; or have experienced or are likely to expe-  
23 rience one or more hospitalizations or are otherwise expected to incur  
24 excessive costs and high utilization of health care services.

25 4. The demonstration program shall offer evidence-based services and  
26 interventions designed to ensure that the enrollees receive high quali-  
27 ty, preventative and cost-effective care, aimed at reducing the necessi-  
28 ty for hospitalization or emergency room care or at reducing lengths of  
29 stay when hospitalization is necessary. The demonstration program may  
30 include screening of eligible enrollees, developing an individualized  
31 care management plan for each enrollee and implementing that plan.  
32 Disease management demonstration programs that utilize information tech-  
33 nology systems that allow for continuous application of evidence-based  
34 guidelines to medical assistance claims data and other available data to  
35 identify specific instances in which clinical interventions are justi-  
36 fied and communicate indicated interventions to physicians, health care  
37 providers and/or patients, and monitor physician and health care provid-  
38 er response to such interventions, shall have the enrollees, or groups  
39 of enrollees, approved by the department for participation. The services  
40 provided by the demonstration program as part of the care management  
41 plan may include, but are not limited to, case management, social work,  
42 individualized health counselors, multi-behavioral goals plans, claims  
43 data management, health and self-care education, drug therapy management  
44 and oversight, personal emergency response systems and other monitoring  
45 technologies, systematic chronic health conditions identified for moni-  
46 toring, telehealth services and similar services designed to improve the  
47 quality and cost-effectiveness of health care services.

48 § 3. Subsections (a), (b) and (c) of section 3239 of the insurance  
49 law, subsection (a) as added by chapter 592 of the laws of 2008, and  
50 subsections (b) and (c) as amended by chapter 180 of the laws of 2016,  
51 are amended to read as follows:

52 (a) An insurer licensed to write accident and health insurance, a  
53 corporation organized pursuant to article forty-three of this chapter, a  
54 health maintenance organization certified pursuant to article forty-four  
55 of the public health law and a municipal cooperative health benefits  
56 plan may establish a wellness program in conjunction with its issuance

1 of a group accident and health insurance policy or group subscriber  
2 contract. A "wellness program" is a program designed to promote health  
3 and prevent disease that may contain rewards and incentives for partic-  
4 ipation. Participation in the wellness program shall be available to  
5 similarly-situated members of the group and shall be voluntary on the  
6 part of the member. The specific terms of the wellness program shall be  
7 set forth in the policy or contract, or in a separate document provided  
8 to insureds and members which shall be consistent with the provisions of  
9 this section.

10 (b) A wellness program may include, but is not limited to, the follow-  
11 ing programs or services:

- 12 (1) the use of a health risk assessment tool;
- 13 (2) a smoking cessation program;
- 14 (3) a weight management program;
- 15 (4) a stress and/or hypertension management program;
- 16 (5) a worker injury prevention program;
- 17 (6) a nutrition education program;
- 18 (7) health or fitness incentive programs;
- 19 (8) a coordinated weight management, nutrition, stress management and  
20 physical fitness program to combat the high incidence of adult and  
21 childhood obesity, asthma and other chronic respiratory conditions;
- 22 (9) a substance or alcohol abuse cessation program; [and]
- 23 (10) a program to manage and cope with chronic pain[-];
- 24 (11) assistance, financial or otherwise, provided to an employer for  
25 health promotion and disease prevention; and
- 26 (12) incentives for insureds or members to access preventive services,  
27 such as asthma, obesity and mammography screening.

28 (c)(1) A wellness program may use rewards and incentives for partic-  
29 ipation provided that where the group health insurance policy or  
30 subscriber contract is required to be community-rated, the rewards and  
31 incentives shall not include a discounted premium rate or a rebate or  
32 refund of premium.

33 (2) Permissible rewards and incentives may include:

34 (A) full or partial reimbursement of the cost of participating in  
35 smoking cessation, weight management, stress and/or hypertension, worker  
36 injury prevention, asthma mitigation or treatment, nutrition education,  
37 substance or alcohol abuse cessation, or chronic pain management and  
38 coping programs;

39 (B) full or partial reimbursement of the cost of membership in a  
40 health club or fitness center;

41 (C) the waiver or reduction of copayments, coinsurance and deductibles  
42 for preventive services covered under the group policy or subscriber  
43 contract;

44 (D) monetary rewards in the form of gift cards or gift certificates,  
45 so long as the recipient of the reward is encouraged to use the reward  
46 for a product or a service that promotes good health, such as healthy  
47 cook books, over the counter vitamins or exercise equipment;

48 (E) full or partial reimbursement of the cost of participating in a  
49 stress management program or activity; and

50 (F) full or partial reimbursement of the cost of participating in a  
51 health or fitness program.

52 (3) Where the reward involves a group member's meeting a specified  
53 standard based on a health condition, the wellness program must meet the  
54 requirements of 45 CFR Part 146.

55 (4) A reward or incentive which involves a discounted premium rate or  
56 a rebate or refund of premium shall be based on actuarial demonstration

1 that the wellness program can reasonably be expected to result in the  
2 overall good health and well being of the group.  
3 § 4. This act shall take effect immediately, except that sections one  
4 and three of this act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day  
5 after this act shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addi-  
6 tion, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for  
7 the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to  
8 be made and completed on or before such date.