STATE OF NEW YORK

4225

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 3, 2021

Introduced by Sen. BENJAMIN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Insurance

AN ACT to direct the department of financial services to study health insurance coverage through the Marketplace

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

Section 1. 1. The department of financial services is hereby authorized and directed to study the feasibility and impact of increasing the subsidy provided to individuals who purchase health care coverage through the Marketplace. For purposes of this section the term "Marketplace" shall have the same meaning as defined in section 268-a of the public health law.

2. Such study shall include, but shall not be limited to:

(a) collecting data on how many people are currently uninsured in New York state and the reasons for their being uninsured including, but not limited to, those eligible for public assistance programs, those ineligible to purchase insurance because of their immigration status, and those who choose to go uninsured because of financial reasons; and

(b) the feasibility of creating programs, subsidies, and/or tax credits to help expand health insurance coverage in New York state to uninsured individuals including, but not limited to, the costs and effectiveness of instituting such new programs, subsidies, and/or tax credits. Such new programs shall include but shall not be limited to: (i) an individual state-level insurance mandate; (ii) a state supplemental premium tax credit to supplement the current federal tax credit; and (iii) a state premium tax credit for those not eligible to access the federal tax credit because of their immigration status or income.

3. No later than eighteen months after the effective date of this act, the department of financial services shall report to the legislature and the governor on the findings of the study conducted pursuant to section one of this act and any legislative recommendations deemed to be necessary.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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