

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 21, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 3, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 13, 2009

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 28, 2009

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 13, 2009

SENATE BILL

No. 227

Introduced by Senator Alquist

(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Monning and Villines)

(Coauthor: Assembly Member Jones)

February 23, 2009

An act to amend Sections 1389.25 and 1389.4 of the Health and Safety Code, and to amend Sections 10113.9 and 10113.95 of, *to add Section 12739.755 to*, and to add and repeal Part 6.6 (commencing with Section 12739.5) of Division 2 of, the Insurance Code, relating to health care coverage, *making an appropriation therefor, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 227, as amended, Alquist. Health care coverage: temporary high risk pool.

Existing law, the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, requires the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a temporary high risk health insurance pool program to provide health insurance coverage for eligible individuals until January 1, 2014. Existing law authorizes the secretary to implement this program directly or through contracts with eligible entities, including *the* states, and requires that federal money made available pursuant to these provisions

be used to establish a qualified high risk pool that meets certain requirements.

Existing law establishes the California Major Risk Medical Insurance Program, which is administered by the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board (MRMIB), to provide major risk medical coverage to persons who, among other things, have been rejected for coverage by at least one private health plan.

This bill would require MRMIB to enter into an agreement with the federal Department of Health and Human Services to administer a ~~qualified~~ *temporary* high risk pool to provide health coverage, until January 1, 2014, to specified individuals who have preexisting conditions, consistent with the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The bill would repeal these provisions on January 1, 2020. *The bill would also appropriate \$761,000,000 from the Federal Trust Fund to MRMIB for the purposes of these provisions.*

Existing law, the Knox-Keene Health Care Service Plan Act of 1975, provides for the licensure and regulation of health care service plans by the Department of Managed Health Care and makes a willful violation of the act a crime. Existing law also provides for the regulation of health insurers by the Department of Insurance. Existing law requires a health care service plan or a health insurer that rejects an applicant for individual coverage or offers individual coverage at a rate higher than the standard rate to inform the applicant about the California Major Risk Medical Insurance Program.

This bill would also require the plan or insurer to inform the applicant about the temporary high risk ~~health insurance~~ pool established pursuant to the bill and would require that ~~the~~ information *to* be provided in accordance with standards developed by the Department of Managed Health Care or the Department of Insurance, as specified. Because a willful violation of this requirement by a health care service plan would be a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would also require the Department of Managed Health Care and the Department of Insurance to post information on their Internet Web sites about the temporary high risk pool established pursuant to the bill.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

This bill would provide that it shall become operative only if AB 1887 of the 2009–10 Regular Session is also enacted and becomes operative.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote: ~~majority~~^{2/3}. Appropriation: ~~no~~-yes. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 1389.25 of the Health and Safety Code
2 is amended to read:

3 1389.25. (a) (1) This section shall apply only to a full service
4 health care service plan offering health coverage in the individual
5 market in California and shall not apply to a specialized health
6 care service plan, a health care service plan contract in the
7 Medi-Cal program (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 14000)
8 of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code), a
9 health care service plan conversion contract offered pursuant to
10 Section 1373.6, a health care service plan contract in the Healthy
11 Families Program (Part 6.2 (commencing with Section 12693) of
12 Division 2 of the Insurance Code), or a health care service plan
13 contract offered to a federally eligible defined individual under
14 Article 4.6 (commencing with Section 1366.35).

15 (2) A local initiative, as defined in subdivision (v) of Section
16 53810 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, that is
17 awarded a contract by the State Department of Health Care Services
18 pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 53800 of Title 22 of the
19 California Code of Regulations, shall not be subject to this section
20 unless the plan offers coverage in the individual market to persons
21 not covered by Medi-Cal or the Healthy Families Program.

22 (b) (1) A health care service plan that declines to offer coverage
23 or denies enrollment for an individual or his or her dependents
24 applying for individual coverage or that offers individual coverage
25 at a rate that is higher than the standard rate, shall provide the
26 individual applicant with the specific reason or reasons for the
27 decision in writing at the time of the denial or offer of coverage.

28 (2) No change in the premium rate or coverage for an individual
29 plan contract shall become effective unless the plan has delivered
30 a written notice of the change at least 30 days prior to the effective

1 date of the contract renewal or the date on which the rate or
2 coverage changes. A notice of an increase in the premium rate
3 shall include the reasons for the rate increase.

4 (3) The written notice required pursuant to paragraph (2) shall
5 be delivered to the individual contractholder at his or her last
6 address known to the plan, at least 30 days prior to the effective
7 date of the change. The notice shall state in italics either the actual
8 dollar amount of the premium rate increase or the specific
9 percentage by which the current premium will be increased. The
10 notice shall describe in plain, understandable English any changes
11 in the plan design or any changes in benefits, including a reduction
12 in benefits or changes to waivers, exclusions, or conditions, and
13 highlight this information by printing it in italics. The notice shall
14 specify in a minimum of 10-point bold typeface, the reason for a
15 premium rate change or a change to the plan design or benefits.

16 (4) If a plan rejects an applicant or the dependents of an
17 applicant for coverage or offers individual coverage at a rate that
18 is higher than the standard rate, the plan shall inform the applicant
19 about the state's high-risk health insurance pool, the California
20 Major Risk Medical Insurance Program (MRMIP) (Part 6.5
21 (commencing with Section 12700) of Division 2 of the Insurance
22 Code), and the federal temporary high risk pool established
23 pursuant to Part 6.6 (commencing with Section 12739.5) of
24 Division 2 of the Insurance Code. The information provided to the
25 applicant by the plan shall be in accordance with standards
26 developed by the department, in consultation with the Managed
27 Risk Medical Insurance Board, and shall specifically include the
28 toll-free telephone number and Internet Web site address for
29 MRMIP and the federal temporary high risk pool. The requirement
30 to notify applicants of the availability of MRMIP and the federal
31 temporary high risk pool shall not apply when a health plan rejects
32 an applicant for Medicare supplement coverage.

33 (c) A notice provided pursuant to this section is a private and
34 confidential communication and, at the time of application, the
35 plan shall give the individual applicant the opportunity to designate
36 the address for receipt of the written notice in order to protect the
37 confidentiality of any personal or privileged information.

38 SEC. 2. Section 1389.4 of the Health and Safety Code is
39 amended to read:

1 1389.4. (a) A full service health care service plan that issues,
2 renews, or amends individual health plan contracts shall be subject
3 to this section.

4 (b) A health care service plan subject to this section shall have
5 written policies, procedures, or underwriting guidelines establishing
6 the criteria and process whereby the plan makes its decision to
7 provide or to deny coverage to individuals applying for coverage
8 and sets the rate for that coverage. These guidelines, policies, or
9 procedures shall assure that the plan rating and underwriting criteria
10 comply with Sections 1365.5 and 1389.1 and all other applicable
11 provisions of state and federal law.

12 (c) On or before June 1, 2006, and annually thereafter, every
13 health care service plan shall file with the department a general
14 description of the criteria, policies, procedures, or guidelines the
15 plan uses for rating and underwriting decisions related to individual
16 health plan contracts, which means automatic declinable health
17 conditions, health conditions that may lead to a coverage decline,
18 height and weight standards, health history, health care utilization,
19 lifestyle, or behavior that might result in a decline for coverage or
20 severely limit the plan products for which they would be eligible.
21 A plan may comply with this section by submitting to the
22 department underwriting materials or resource guides provided to
23 plan solicitors or solicitor firms, provided that those materials
24 include the information required to be submitted by this section.

25 (d) Commencing January 1, 2011, the director shall post on the
26 department's Internet Web site, in a manner accessible and
27 understandable to consumers, general, noncompany specific
28 information about rating and underwriting criteria and practices
29 in the individual market and information about the California Major
30 Risk Medical Insurance Program (Part 6.5 (commencing with
31 Section 12700) of Division 2 of the Insurance Code) and the federal
32 temporary high risk pool established pursuant to Part 6.6
33 (commencing with Section 12739.5) of Division 2 of the Insurance
34 Code. The director shall develop the information for the Internet
35 Web site in consultation with the Department of Insurance to
36 enhance the consistency of information provided to consumers.
37 Information about individual health coverage shall also include
38 the following notification:

39 "Please examine your options carefully before declining group
40 coverage or continuation coverage, such as COBRA, that may be

1 available to you. You should be aware that companies selling
2 individual health insurance typically require a review of your
3 medical history that could result in a higher premium or you could
4 be denied coverage entirely.”

5 (e) Nothing in this section shall authorize public disclosure of
6 company specific rating and underwriting criteria and practices
7 submitted to the director.

8 (f) This section shall not apply to a closed block of business, as
9 defined in Section 1367.15.

10 SEC. 3. Section 10113.9 of the Insurance Code is amended to
11 read:

12 10113.9. (a) This section shall not apply to short-term limited
13 duration health insurance, vision-only, dental-only, or
14 CHAMPUS-supplement insurance, or to hospital indemnity,
15 hospital-only, accident-only, or specified disease insurance that
16 does not pay benefits on a fixed benefit, cash payment only basis.

17 (b) No change in the premium rate or coverage for an individual
18 health insurance policy shall become effective unless the insurer
19 has delivered a written notice of the change at least 30 days prior
20 to the effective date of the policy renewal or the date on which the
21 rate or coverage changes. A notice of an increase in the premium
22 rate shall include the reasons for the rate increase.

23 (c) The written notice required pursuant to subdivision (b) shall
24 be delivered to the individual policyholder at his or her last address
25 known to the insurer, at least 30 days prior to the effective date of
26 the change. The notice shall state in italics either the actual dollar
27 amount of the premium increase or the specific percentage by
28 which the current premium will be increased. The notice shall
29 describe in plain, understandable English any changes in the policy
30 or any changes in benefits, including a reduction in benefits or
31 changes to waivers, exclusions, or conditions, and highlight this
32 information by printing it in italics. The notice shall specify in a
33 minimum of 10-point bold typeface, the reason for a premium rate
34 change or a change in coverage or benefits.

35 (d) If an insurer rejects an applicant or the dependents of an
36 applicant for coverage or offers individual coverage at a rate that
37 is higher than the standard rate, the insurer shall inform the
38 applicant about the state’s high-risk health insurance pool, the
39 California Major Risk Medical Insurance Program (MRMIP) (Part
40 6.5 (commencing with Section 12700)), and the federal temporary

1 high risk pool established pursuant to Part 6.6 (commencing with
2 Section 12739.5). The information provided to the applicant by
3 the insurer shall be in accordance with standards developed by the
4 department, in consultation with the Managed Risk Medical
5 Insurance Board, and shall specifically include the toll-free
6 telephone number and Internet Web site address for MRMIP and
7 the federal temporary high risk pool. The requirement to notify
8 applicants of the availability of MRMIP and the federal temporary
9 high risk pool shall not apply when a health plan rejects an
10 applicant for Medicare supplement coverage.

11 SEC. 4. Section 10113.95 of the Insurance Code is amended
12 to read:

13 10113.95. (a) A health insurer that issues, renews, or amends
14 individual health insurance policies shall be subject to this section.

15 (b) An insurer subject to this section shall have written policies,
16 procedures, or underwriting guidelines establishing the criteria
17 and process whereby the insurer makes its decision to provide or
18 to deny coverage to individuals applying for coverage and sets the
19 rate for that coverage. These guidelines, policies, or procedures
20 shall assure that the plan rating and underwriting criteria comply
21 with Sections 10140 and 10291.5 and all other applicable
22 provisions.

23 (c) On or before June 1, 2006, and annually thereafter, every
24 insurer shall file with the commissioner a general description of
25 the criteria, policies, procedures, or guidelines that the insurer uses
26 for rating and underwriting decisions related to individual health
27 insurance policies, which means automatic declinable health
28 conditions, health conditions that may lead to a coverage decline,
29 height and weight standards, health history, health care utilization,
30 lifestyle, or behavior that might result in a decline for coverage or
31 severely limit the health insurance products for which they would
32 be eligible. An insurer may comply with this section by submitting
33 to the department underwriting materials or resource guides
34 provided to agents and brokers, provided that those materials
35 include the information required to be submitted by this section.

36 (d) Commencing January 1, 2011, the commissioner shall post
37 on the department's *Internet* Web site, in a manner accessible and
38 understandable to consumers, general, noncompany specific
39 information about rating and underwriting criteria and practices
40 in the individual market and information about the California Major

1 Risk Medical Insurance Program (Part 6.5 (commencing with
2 Section 12700) and the federal temporary high risk pool established
3 pursuant to Part 6.6 (commencing with Section 12739.5) of
4 Division 2. The commissioner shall develop the information for
5 the Internet Web site in consultation with the Department of
6 Managed Health Care to enhance the consistency of information
7 provided to consumers. Information about individual health
8 insurance shall also include the following notification:

9 “Please examine your options carefully before declining group
10 coverage or continuation coverage, such as COBRA, that may be
11 available to you. You should be aware that companies selling
12 individual health insurance typically require a review of your
13 medical history that could result in a higher premium or you could
14 be denied coverage entirely.”

15 (e) Nothing in this section shall authorize public disclosure of
16 company-specific rating and underwriting criteria and practices
17 submitted to the commissioner.

18 (f) This section shall not apply to a closed block of business, as
19 defined in Section 10176.10.

20 SEC. 5. Part 6.6 (commencing with Section 12739.5) is added
21 to Division 2 of the Insurance Code, to read:

22

23 PART 6.6. QUALIFIED HIGH RISK POOLS

24

25 12739.5. It is the intent of the Legislature to implement Section
26 1101 of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
27 (Public Law 111-148) in California to establish a temporary high
28 risk pool so that access to health coverage for individuals with
29 preexisting medical conditions can be effectively and promptly
30 provided by the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board.

31 12739.50. For the purposes of this part, the following terms
32 have the following meanings:

33 (a) “Applicant” means an individual who applies for high risk
34 medical coverage through the program.

35 (b) “Board” means the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board.

36 (c) “Federal temporary high risk pool” is the temporary high
37 risk health insurance pool program established pursuant to Section
38 1101 of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
39 (Public Law 111-148).

1 (d) “Fund” means the Federal Temporary High Risk Health
2 Insurance Fund, established in Section 12739.71, from which the
3 board may authorize expenditures to pay for all of the following:

4 (1) Covered, medically necessary services that exceed
5 subscribers’ contributions.

6 (2) Administration of the program.

7 (3) Marketing and outreach.

8 (e) “High risk medical coverage” or “coverage” means payment
9 for medically necessary services provided by institutional and
10 professional providers through the program.

11 (f) “Participating health plan” means a private insurer holding
12 a valid outstanding certificate of authority from the Insurance
13 Commissioner or a health care service plan, as defined under
14 subdivision (f) of Section 1345 of the Health and Safety Code,
15 that contracts with the program to provide or administer high risk
16 medical coverage to program subscribers.

17 (g) “Plan rates” means the total monthly amount charged by a
18 participating health plan to provide or administer high risk medical
19 coverage.

20 (h) “Program” means the ~~California~~ Federal Temporary Health
21 High Risk Pool through which the board operates the federal
22 temporary high risk pool in California.

23 (i) “Subscriber” means an eligible individual, as defined in
24 subsection (d) of Section 1101 of the federal Patient Protection
25 and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148), who is enrolled
26 in the program, and includes a member of a federally recognized
27 California Indian tribe.

28 (j) “Subscriber contribution” means the premium for high risk
29 medical coverage paid by the subscriber or, if authorized by the
30 federal government, paid on behalf of the subscriber by a federally
31 recognized California Indian tribal government. If a federally
32 recognized California Indian tribal government makes a
33 contribution on behalf of a member of the tribe, the tribal
34 government shall ensure that the subscriber is made aware of all
35 the health coverage options, including participating health plans,
36 available in the county where the member resides.

37 12739.51. The ~~California~~ Federal Temporary Health High Risk
38 Pool is hereby created in the California Health and Human Services
39 Agency. The program shall be managed by the board.

1 12739.52. The board shall have the authority to do all of the
2 following, consistent with Section 1101 of the federal Patient
3 Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148):

4 (a) Enter into an agreement with the federal Department of
5 Health and Human Services to administer the federal temporary
6 high risk pool as provided in Section 12739.53.

7 (b) Determine eligibility criteria and enrollment and
8 disenrollment criteria and processes, including processes for
9 waiting lists, enrollment limits, disenrollments, and any other limits
10 on enrollment needed to maintain program expenditures within
11 available federal funds.

12 (c) Determine the participation requirements of applicants,
13 subscribers, and participating health plans, third-party
14 administrators, and other contractors.

15 (d) Determine when subscribers' coverage begins and ends.

16 (e) Provide for the processing of applications and the enrollment
17 of subscribers.

18 (f) Determine the high risk medical coverage to be provided to
19 subscribers, including the scope of benefits and subscriber cost
20 sharing.

21 (g) Establish subscriber contributions and plan rates.

22 (h) (1) Provide high risk medical coverage for subscribers
23 through contracts with participating health plans or third-party
24 administrators to provide or administer the coverage. A contract
25 between the board and a participating health plan may provide that
26 the contracting health plan assumes full or partial risk for the cost
27 of covered health services or that the contracting health plan
28 undertakes to provide only administrative services for the state's
29 self-insured high risk medical coverage. A contract between the
30 board and a third-party administrator may provide that the
31 third-party administrator undertakes to provide only administrative
32 services for the state's self-insured high risk medical coverage.
33 The board may provide or purchase stop-loss coverage under which
34 the program and participating health plans or stop-loss insurers
35 share the risk for health plan expenses that exceed plan rates.

36 (2) Nothing in paragraph (1) shall be construed to alter the rights
37 of a participating health plan under existing law if the board is
38 unable to continue payment to the plan in accordance with the
39 terms of the plan's contract with the board.

1 (i) Authorize expenditures from the fund to pay program
2 expenses that exceed subscriber contributions.

3 (j) Contract for administration of the program or any portion of
4 the program with any public agency, including any agency of state
5 government, or with any private entity.

6 (k) If, and to the extent, permitted by federal law and by the
7 federal Department of Health and Human Services, align program
8 administration with the administration of the Major Risk Medical
9 Insurance Program established pursuant to Part 6.5 (commencing
10 with Section 12700) to ensure coordination and administrative
11 efficiency.

12 (l) Sue and be sued.

13 (m) Employ necessary staff.

14 (n) Refer potential violations of state and federal law by
15 participating health plans and other entities and persons to the
16 appropriate regulatory agencies.

17 (o) Subject to the approval of the Department of Finance, obtain
18 loans from the General Fund for all necessary and reasonable
19 expenses related to the administration of the fund and the program.
20 The board shall repay principal and interest, using the pooled
21 money investment account rate of interest, to the General Fund no
22 later than July 1, 2014.

23 (p) (1) Issue rules and regulations to carry out the purposes of
24 this part. The adoption and readoption of regulations to implement
25 this part shall be deemed to be an emergency that calls for
26 immediate action to avoid serious harm to the public peace, health,
27 safety, or general welfare for purposes of Sections 11346.1 and
28 11349.6 of the Government Code, and the board is hereby
29 exempted from the requirement that the board describe facts
30 showing the need for immediate action and from review by the
31 Office of Administrative Law.

32 (2) Notwithstanding Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section
33 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code,
34 the board shall, without taking any regulatory action, initially
35 implement this section pursuant to the agreement with the federal
36 Department of Health and Human Services described in subdivision
37 (a) of Section 12739.53. Thereafter, the board shall adopt any
38 necessary regulations in accordance with the requirements of
39 Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division

1 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code and with paragraph (1) of
2 this subdivision.

3 (q) Exercise all powers reasonably necessary to carry out the
4 powers and responsibilities expressly granted or imposed upon the
5 board under this part, including the powers and responsibilities
6 necessary to enter into an agreement with, and comply with the
7 requirements of, the federal Department of Health and Human
8 Services as described in subdivision (a) of Section 12739.53.

9 12739.53. (a) The board shall, consistent with Section 1101
10 of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public
11 Law 111-148) and State and federal law and contingent on the
12 agreement of the federal Department of Health and Human Services
13 and receipt of sufficient federal funding, enter into an agreement
14 with the federal Department of Health and Human Services to
15 administer the federal temporary high risk pool in California.

16 (b) If the federal Department of Health and Human Services
17 and the state enter into an agreement to administer the federal
18 temporary high risk pool, the board shall do all of the following:

19 (1) Administer the program pursuant to that agreement.

20 (2) Begin providing coverage in the program on the date
21 established pursuant to the agreement with the federal Department
22 of Health and Human Services.

23 (3) Establish the scope and content of high risk medical
24 coverage.

25 (4) Determine reasonable minimum standards for participating
26 health plans, third-party administrators, and other contractors.

27 (5) Determine the time, manner, method, and procedures for
28 withdrawing program approval from a plan, third-party
29 administrator, or other contractor, or limiting enrollment of
30 subscribers in a plan.

31 (6) Research and assess the needs of persons without adequate
32 health coverage and promote means of ensuring the availability
33 of adequate health care services.

34 (7) Administer the program to ensure the following:

35 (A) That the program subsidy amount does not exceed amounts
36 transferred to the fund pursuant to this part.

37 (B) That the aggregate amount spent for high risk medical
38 coverage and program administration does not exceed the federal
39 funds available to the state for this purpose and that no state funds
40 are spent for the purposes of this part.

1 (8) Maintain enrollment and expenditures to ensure that
2 expenditures do not exceed amounts available in the fund and that
3 no state funds are spent for purposes of this part. If sufficient funds
4 are not available to cover the estimated cost of program
5 expenditures, the board shall institute appropriate measures to limit
6 enrollment.

7 (9) In adopting benefit and eligibility standards, be guided by
8 the needs and welfare of persons unable to secure adequate health
9 coverage for themselves and their dependents and by prevailing
10 practices among private health plans.

11 (10) As required by the federal Department of Health and
12 Human Services, implement procedures to provide for the transition
13 of subscribers into qualified health plans offered through an
14 exchange or exchanges to be established pursuant to the federal
15 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148).

16 (11) Post on the board's Internet Web site the monthly progress
17 reports submitted to the federal Department of Health and Human
18 Services. In addition, the board shall provide notice of any
19 anticipated waiting lists or disenrollments due to insufficient
20 funding to the public, by making that notice available as part of
21 its board meetings, and concurrently to the Legislature.

22 (12) Develop and implement a plan for marketing and outreach.

23 (c) There shall not be any liability in a private capacity on the
24 part of the board or any member of the board, or any officer or
25 employee of the board for or on account of any act performed or
26 obligation entered into in an official capacity, when done in good
27 faith, without intent to defraud, and in connection with the
28 administration, management, or conduct of this part or affairs
29 related to this part.

30 12739.54. (a) Plan rates for high risk medical benefits approved
31 for the program shall not be excessive, inadequate, or unfairly
32 discriminatory, but shall be adequate to pay anticipated costs of
33 claims or services and administration.

34 (b) As a condition of reimbursement, participating health plans
35 or third-party administrators shall submit claims to the board within
36 18 months following the date of service. The board may vary the
37 time limit established in this subdivision if necessary to administer
38 the reimbursement or reconciliation processes established by the
39 board or to meet the requirements of the state's agreement with

1 the federal Department of Health and Human Services described
2 in subdivision (a) of Section 12739.53.

3 12739.55. The program may place a lien on compensation or
4 benefits recovered or recoverable by a subscriber from any party
5 or parties responsible for the compensation or benefits for which
6 benefits have been provided pursuant to this part.

7 12739.56. Except as provided in Article 3.5 (commencing with
8 Section 14124.70) of Chapter 7 of Part 3 of Division 9 of the
9 Welfare and Institutions Code, benefits received under this part
10 are in excess of, and secondary to, any other form of health benefits
11 coverage.

12 12739.57. The board shall provide coverage pursuant to this
13 part through participating health plans or through provider networks
14 using a third-party administrator and may contract for the
15 processing of applications, the enrollment of subscribers, and all
16 activities necessary to administer the program. Any contract entered
17 into pursuant to this part shall be exempt from any provision of
18 law relating to competitive bidding, and shall be exempt from the
19 review or approval of any division of the Department of General
20 Services. The board shall not be required to specify the amounts
21 encumbered for each contract but may allocate funds to each
22 contract based on projected and actual subscriber enrollments in
23 a total amount not to exceed revenue available for the program.

24 12739.58. A transfer of enrollment from one participating
25 health plan to another may be made by a subscriber at times and
26 under conditions as may be prescribed by regulations of the
27 program.

28 12739.59. (a) Program decisions concerning an applicant's or
29 subscriber's eligibility or eligibility date may be appealed to the
30 board, according to procedures to be established by the board.

31 (b) Coverage determinations may be appealed to the board,
32 according to procedures established by the board. If permitted by
33 the federal Department of Health and Human Services, the board
34 shall not be required to provide an appeal concerning a coverage
35 determination if the subject of the appeal is within the jurisdiction
36 of the Department of Managed Health Care pursuant to the
37 Knox-Keene Health Care Service Plan Act of 1975 (Chapter 2.2
38 (commencing with Section 1340) of Division 2 of the Health and
39 Safety Code) and its implementing regulations or within the

1 jurisdiction of the Department of Insurance pursuant to the
2 Insurance Code and its implementing regulations.

3 (c) Hearings shall be conducted according to the requirements
4 of the federal Department of Health and Human Services and,
5 insofar as practicable and not inconsistent with those requirements,
6 pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 5 (commencing with Section
7 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

8 12739.60. Upon enrollment as a subscriber in the program, the
9 subscriber shall be responsible for payment of the subscriber
10 contribution.

11 12739.61. The board shall cease to provide coverage through
12 the program on January 1, 2014, and at that time shall cease to
13 operate the program except as required to complete payments to,
14 or payment reconciliations with, participating health plans or other
15 contractors, process appeals, or conduct other necessary transition
16 activities, including, but not limited to, transition of subscribers
17 into an exchange or exchanges established pursuant to the federal
18 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148).

19 12739.62. This part shall remain in effect only until January
20 1, 2020, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted
21 statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2020, deletes or extends
22 that date.

23 *SEC. 6. Section 12739.755 is added to the Insurance Code, to*
24 *read:*

25 *12739.755. The sum of seven hundred sixty-one million dollars*
26 *(\$761,000,000) is hereby appropriated without regard to fiscal*
27 *years from the Federal Trust Fund to the board, from funds*
28 *received from the federal government under Section 1101 of the*
29 *federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law*
30 *111-148), for transfer to the fund for the purposes specified in*
31 *Section 12739.71.*

32 ~~SEC. 6:~~

33 *SEC. 7. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to*
34 *Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because*
35 *the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school*
36 *district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or*
37 *infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty*
38 *for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of*
39 *the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within*

1 the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California
2 Constitution.

3 ~~SEC. 7.~~

4 *SEC. 8.* This act shall become operative only if Assembly Bill
5 1887 of the 2009–10 Regular Session is also enacted and becomes
6 operative.

7 *SEC. 9.* *This act is an urgency statute necessary for the*
8 *immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within*
9 *the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into*
10 *immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:*

11 *In order to allow the state to apply for federal funding made*
12 *available by Section 1101 of the federal Patient Protection and*
13 *Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148) at the earliest possible*
14 *time, it is necessary that this act take effect immediately.*