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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FIRST SESSION

H. F. No. 4101

03/04/2020 Authored by Cantrell

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to human services; creating the Minnesota Easy Enrollment Health
1.3 Insurance Program; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2018,
1.4 sections 270B.14, subdivision 1; 270C.445, by adding a subdivision; proposing
1.5 coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 256; 290.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. [256.044] MINNESOTA EASY ENROLLMENT HEALTH INSURANCE
1.8 PROGRAM.

1.9 Subdivision 1. Definitions. (a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have
1.10 the meanings given.

1.11 (b) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of human services.

1.12 (c) "State health care" means MinnesotaCare under chapter 256L or medical assistance
1.13 under chapter 256B.

1.14 Subd. 2. Eligibility determination. (a) The commissioner must determine eligibility
1.15 for state health care as soon as possible after an individual files a state income tax return
1.16 on which the individual chose a checkoff box described in section 290.433 indicating that
1.17 an uninsured individual wishes to apply for the Minnesota Easy Enrollment Health Insurance
1.18 Program.

1.19 (b) The commissioner must verify an uninsured individual's eligibility for state health
1.20 care:

2.1 (1) with information on a state income tax return and other data from third-party data
 2.2 sources, including data described in section 1413 of the Affordable Care Act as defined in
 2.3 section 62A.011, subdivision 1a; and

2.4 (2) whenever possible, without requesting additional information or attestations from
 2.5 the uninsured individual.

2.6 (c) If additional attestations or documentation from the uninsured individual are required
 2.7 to establish eligibility for state health care, the commissioner must take steps to limit the
 2.8 burden on the uninsured individual, including:

2.9 (1) proactively contacting the individual who filed the tax return or the uninsured
 2.10 individual;

2.11 (2) recording, by telephonic or electronic means, attestations and other documentation
 2.12 provided by the individual who filed the tax return or the uninsured individual; and

2.13 (3) if the attestations or documentation required to determine eligibility are not obtained
 2.14 using the steps described in clauses (1) and (2), facilitating the selection of an authorized
 2.15 representative for the uninsured individual.

2.16 Subd. 3. **Enrollment.** (a) If the commissioner determines that an individual is eligible
 2.17 for state health care under subdivision 2, the individual must be enrolled in the appropriate
 2.18 program in accordance with chapter 256B or 256L. The commissioner must complete the
 2.19 enrollment process within three months of this determination.

2.20 (b) To carry out the purposes of this section, the commissioner may promulgate rules
 2.21 pursuant to chapter 14.

2.22 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2020.

2.23 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 270B.14, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

2.24 **Subdivision 1. Disclosure to commissioner of human services.** (a) On the request of
 2.25 the commissioner of human services, the commissioner shall disclose return information
 2.26 regarding taxes imposed by chapter 290, and claims for refunds under chapter 290A, to the
 2.27 extent provided in paragraph (b) and for the purposes set forth in paragraph (c).

2.28 (b) Data that may be disclosed are limited to data relating to the identity, whereabouts,
 2.29 employment, income, and property of a person owing or alleged to be owing an obligation
 2.30 of child support.

2.31 (c) The commissioner of human services may request data only for the purposes of
 2.32 carrying out the child support enforcement program and to assist in the location of parents

3.1 who have, or appear to have, deserted their children. Data received may be used only as set
3.2 forth in section 256.978.

3.3 (d) The commissioner shall provide the records and information necessary to administer
3.4 the supplemental housing allowance to the commissioner of human services.

3.5 (e) At the request of the commissioner of human services, the commissioner of revenue
3.6 shall electronically match the Social Security numbers and names of participants in the
3.7 telephone assistance plan operated under sections 237.69 to 237.71, with those of property
3.8 tax refund filers, and determine whether each participant's household income is within the
3.9 eligibility standards for the telephone assistance plan.

3.10 (f) The commissioner may provide records and information collected under sections
3.11 295.50 to 295.59 to the commissioner of human services for purposes of the Medicaid
3.12 Voluntary Contribution and Provider-Specific Tax Amendments of 1991, Public Law
3.13 102-234. Upon the written agreement by the United States Department of Health and Human
3.14 Services to maintain the confidentiality of the data, the commissioner may provide records
3.15 and information collected under sections 295.50 to 295.59 to the Centers for Medicare and
3.16 Medicaid Services section of the United States Department of Health and Human Services
3.17 for purposes of meeting federal reporting requirements.

3.18 (g) The commissioner may provide records and information to the commissioner of
3.19 human services as necessary to administer the early refund of refundable tax credits.

3.20 (h) The commissioner may disclose information to the commissioner of human services
3.21 as necessary for income verification for eligibility and premium payment under the
3.22 MinnesotaCare program, under section 256L.05, subdivision 2, as well as the medical
3.23 assistance program under chapter 256B.

3.24 (i) The commissioner may disclose information to the commissioner of human services
3.25 necessary to verify whether applicants or recipients for the Minnesota family investment
3.26 program, general assistance, food support, Minnesota supplemental aid program, and child
3.27 care assistance have claimed refundable tax credits under chapter 290 and the property tax
3.28 refund under chapter 290A, and the amounts of the credits.

3.29 (j) The commissioner may disclose information to the commissioner of human services
3.30 necessary to verify income for purposes of calculating parental contribution amounts under
3.31 section 252.27, subdivision 2a.

4.1 (k) The commissioner may disclose to the commissioner of human services information
4.2 necessary to administer the Minnesota Easy Enrollment Health Insurance Program under
4.3 sections 256.044, 270C.445, and 290.433.

4.4 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December
4.5 31, 2019.

4.6 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 270C.445, is amended by adding a subdivision
4.7 to read:

4.8 Subd. 5c. **Minnesota Easy Enrollment Health Insurance Program checkoff.** A tax
4.9 preparer must give written notice of the option to apply for the Minnesota Easy Enrollment
4.10 Health Insurance Program, as provided in section 290.433, to an individual who files an
4.11 income tax return or property tax refund claim form. This notification must be included
4.12 with information sent to the client at the same time as the preliminary worksheets or other
4.13 documents used in preparing the client's return and must include a checkoff box for displaying
4.14 the client's decision on exercising the option. The commissioner must develop the notification
4.15 and checkoff language with the commissioner of human services.

4.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December
4.17 31, 2019.

4.18 Sec. 4. **[290.433] CHECKOFF ON RETURN TO APPLY FOR MINNESOTA EASY**
4.19 **ENROLLMENT HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM.**

4.20 (a) An individual who files an income tax return or property tax refund claim form may
4.21 designate through a checkoff box on the filer's original return that they wish to apply for
4.22 the Minnesota Easy Enrollment Health Insurance Program under section 256.044. The
4.23 commissioner must notify filers on the income tax return and the property tax refund claim
4.24 form of the filer's right to apply for the Minnesota Easy Enrollment Health Insurance Program
4.25 under section 256.044. The commissioner must develop the checkoff box language and
4.26 notification with the commissioner of human services. The designation by the taxpayer,
4.27 and any other information necessary to determine eligibility, must be provided for use by
4.28 the commissioner of human services as provided under section 270B.14, and in accordance
4.29 with section 256.044.

4.30 (b) The state pledges and agrees with all filers under this section that it will not impose
4.31 additional conditions or restrictions that will limit or otherwise restrict the ability of the
4.32 commissioner of human services to use the filer's information to determine eligibility for
4.33 the Minnesota Easy Enrollment Health Insurance Program.

5.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December
5.2 31, 2019.

5.3 Sec. 5. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

5.4 (a) \$..... in fiscal year 2021 is appropriated from the fund to the commissioner of
5.5 revenue to implement the duties of the department under sections 3 and 4.

5.6 (b) \$..... in fiscal year 2021 is appropriated from the fund to the commissioner of
5.7 human services to implement the duties of the department under section 1.