

University of Denver

**Digital Commons @ DU**

---

All Publications (Colorado Legislative Council)

Colorado Legislative Council Research  
Publications

---

11-1992

## **0373 Joint Review Committee for the Medically Indigent**

Colorado Legislative Council

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.du.edu/colc\\_all](https://digitalcommons.du.edu/colc_all)

---

### **Recommended Citation**

Colorado Legislative Council, "0373 Joint Review Committee for the Medically Indigent" (1992). *All Publications (Colorado Legislative Council)*. 381.

[https://digitalcommons.du.edu/colc\\_all/381](https://digitalcommons.du.edu/colc_all/381)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Colorado Legislative Council Research Publications at Digital Commons @ DU. It has been accepted for inclusion in All Publications (Colorado Legislative Council) by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ DU. For more information, please contact [jennifer.cox@du.edu](mailto:jennifer.cox@du.edu), [dig-commons@du.edu](mailto:dig-commons@du.edu).

---

0373 Joint Review Committee for the Medically Indigent



# COLORADO

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Legislative Council  
Research Publication No. 373

**Joint Review Committee  
for the Medically  
Indigent**

**November 1992**

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 1993**

**JOINT REVIEW COMMITTEE  
FOR THE MEDICALLY INDIGENT**

**Report to the  
Colorado General Assembly**

**Research Publication No. 373  
November 1992**

# **JOINT REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR THE MEDICALLY INDIGENT**

## **Members of the Committee**

**Representative Bill Martin,  
Chairman  
Senator Sally Hopper,  
Vice Chairman  
Senator Dennis Gallagher  
Senator David Leeds  
Senator Bill Schroeder**

**Representative Mary Ellen Epps  
Representative Jim Dyer  
Representative John Irwin  
Representative Matt Jones  
Representative Phil Pankey**

## **Legislative Council Staff**

**Jim Hill,  
Principal Analyst I**

## **Office of Legislative Legal Services**

**Deborah Haskins,  
Administrative Senior Attorney**

# COLORADO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**OFFICERS**  
Sen. Ted L. Strickland  
Chairman  
Rep. Chuck Berry  
Vice Chairman

**STAFF**  
Charles S. Brown  
Director  
David Hite  
Deputy Director  
Stanley D. Eloffson  
Assistant Director



## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

ROOM 029 STATE CAPITOL  
DENVER, COLORADO 80203-1784  
(303) 866-3521

**MEMBERS**  
Sen. Bob Martinez  
Sen. Harold McCormick  
Sen. Ray Powers  
Sen. Bill Schroeder  
Sen. Larry Trujillo  
Sen. Jeffrey Wells  
Rep. Jeanne Faatz  
Rep. John Irwin  
Rep. Scott McInnis  
Rep. Paul Schauer  
Rep. Samuel Williams  
Rep. Ruth Wright

November 13, 1992

To Members of the Fifty-Ninth Colorado General Assembly:

Submitted herewith is the final report for the Joint Review Committee for the Medically Indigent. The committee was appointed by the Speaker of the House and president of the Senate pursuant to Article 15 of Title 26, C.R.S. The purpose of the committee is to give guidance and direction to the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in the development of the program for the medically indigent and to provide legislative overview of and advice concerning the development of the program.

At its meeting on August 19, the committee acted to recommend the proposed bill which is detailed herein. This bill was submitted to and approved by the Legislative Council at its meeting on October 15.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Representative Bill Martin  
Chairman, Joint Review Committee  
for the Medically Indigent

BM/eg

**LIST OF BILLS**

**Page**

**Bill 1    Concerning Continuation of the Children's Health Plan . . . . . 5**

# **JOINT REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR THE MEDICALLY INDIGENT**

## **Statutory Authority And Responsibility**

---

The Joint Review Committee for the Medically Indigent was established in 1983 by the "Reform Act for the Provision of Health Care for the Medically Indigent" (Article 15 of Title 26, C.R.S.). The act states that the committee is to give guidance and direction to the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in the development of the program for the medically indigent and to provide legislative oversight for the program. The Medically Indigent Program serves a vital role in preventing deterioration of the health conditions among the medically indigent citizens of Colorado.

The Joint Review Committee for the Medically Indigent recognizes that accessing needed health care is a problem that affects the low-income population. The health status of low-income families is a result of many factors associated with poverty, including inadequate nutrition, environmental exposure, poor health habits, and limited access to health care. Low-income families often encounter many difficulties in obtaining preventive and immunization services for their children, as well as care for acute illness and chronic disease. Low-income families are more likely to use public clinics and hospitals for regular care, less likely to have health insurance, and more likely to postpone care for financial reasons. In addition, children from low-income families, the sector of the population at highest risk of medical indigence, are less likely to see a physician when sick.

## **Committee Recommendation**

---

The committee recommends the following bill for consideration during the 1993 legislative session:

### **Concerning Continuation of the Children's Health Plan — Bill 1**

---

Bill 1 continues the Children's Health Plan which was due for repeal on July 1, 1993. The plan was originally established in 1990 to promote access to appropriate primary health care for children. The purpose of the law is to provide access to basic medical services to children up to age nine living in families with incomes less than 150 percent of the federal poverty level who are not eligible for Medicaid. The services to



be covered are primary, specialty, and outpatient services, including preventive care for acute illness, injury and chronic illness. Children are covered for outpatient services such as immunizations, well child checkups, visits for acute and chronic illnesses and injury, ongoing care for chronic illness, and outpatient surgical services.

Health care services to low-income children are provided through managed health care systems. Eligible persons are required to pay an enrollment fee of \$25 per child that is not to exceed \$150 per family in order to participate.

The Child Health Plan is funded by federal Medicaid funds paid to University Hospital, private donations, and enrollment fees. By statute, the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center administers the Child Health Plan and must report annually to the General Assembly on the status of the program.

### **Materials Available**

The materials listed below are available upon request from the Legislative Council Staff.

- 1) Staff Summary of the Joint Review Committee for the Medically Indigent, August 19, 1992.
- 2) University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, memorandum, The Colorado Child Health Plan.

BY SENATOR Hopper;  
also REPRESENTATIVE Dyer.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING CONTINUATION OF THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH PLAN.

---

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not necessarily reflect any amendments which may be subsequently adopted.)

Continues the children's health plan which provides primary health care to eligible children.

---

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2       **SECTION 1.** 26-17-115, Colorado Revised Statutes, 1989 Repl.  
3 Vol., as amended, is amended to read:

4       **26-17-115. Repeal of article.** This article is repealed,  
5 effective July 1, ~~1993~~ 1998.

6       **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby  
7 finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the  
8 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.