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Yolanda Richardson
Operator's Signature

10/16/03
Date

2003 HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES
HB 1463

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10/6/03
Date

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1463

House Human Services Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date January 27, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
2	x		35.2 -61.4
		x	0.0 - 30.0
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Sharon Rengrow</i>			

Minutes:

Rep. Niemeier appeared as prime sponsor with written testimony stating that estimates place the number of uninsured children in ND as high as 15,000. The State has never succeeded in covering more than about 15% of the uninsured ND children. Increasing the income eligibility limits would dramatically increase the number of uninsured ND children with health care coverage.

Rep. Porter was wondering if other states were offering such a cadillac version of a policy.

Rep. Pollert wanted to why we are going for more when we are in a worse financial situation this session than last. Also that last session we worked with moving the asset test, we need some information on that as it goes hand in hand with this.

Concerns of the committee that we don't know how many qualify but are not enrolled, shifting from Healthy Steps and Chips and matching funds.

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House Human Services Committee

Bill/Resolution Number HB 1463

Hearing Date January 27, 2003

Rep. Kerzman appeared as cosponsor stating we need to take care of our children and they shouldn't be looked at as second hand citizens.

Bernard Hoggarth, a pediatrician with Altru Health Systems in Grand Forks, appeared in support with written testimony. He states its a lack of knowledge because people don't know of the programs.

Rep. Porter stated year after year we look at the policy coverage that should be afforded, the Medicaid program right now, there is a deficit spending bill of about 16 million that has to be covered for the last biennium and this one has a 700,000.00 fiscal note on it and I guess as we look at this, what areas do you think we should be cutting in order to cover these differences as they are talking about cutting dental coverage for our senior citizens and Chips above & beyond what most other states have done with vision and dental coverage.

Answer: I'm only here to speak for the children of ND, they deserve whatever we can give them and I will leave that up to you to decide what.

James Moench, Executive Director of the ND Disabilities Advocacy Consortium (NDDAC) appeared in support with written testimony.

Questions of the committee as seeing people dropping their employee/employers insurance or how many would qualify but haven't applied.

Gloria Lokken, Pres. of NDEA appeared in support stating we need healthy children and healthy children learn better and to just look at this as an investment.

Sister Margaret Gross, ND Catholic Conference appeared in support.

Dave Zentner, Director of Medical Services for the Dept. of Human Services appeared neutral to provide information with written testimony (based on gross amount, not net).

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House Human Services Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HB 1463
Hearing Date January 27, 2003

Questions on deductions - 3 basic deductions, payroll taxes, child care expenses and child support. Gross vs. Net incomes, premium increases, current costs, how many states have dental & vision and what the Dept. considers as child care expenses.

Mr. Zentner will get a new chart of actual poverty levels for the committee.

Closed hearing.

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2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1463

House Human Services Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date January 29, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1		x	16.8 - 52.5
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Sharon Bergman</i>			

Minutes: Committee Work

Rep. Price handed out Income levels for 2003 Chart & read letter from the Dept. of Human Services.

Rep. Wieland: wanted to know the items that were deducted. Answer: Payroll taxes, child care expenses & child support.

Rep. Porter: Could we put a clause on to go 160% gross and not held ineligible if qualified before.

Rep. Niemeier: We are paying such a high cost for premiums under Medicaid, that being able to ship some of that coverage to kids on CHIPS is going to be a saving right there of about \$30.00 a month for premiums (new applicants)

Rep. Pollert: Doesn't feel its the consensus of the assembly to take this up at this time.

Rep. Weisz: stated the winners are those who don't have child care expense and the losers are those who have child care expense.

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House Human Services Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HB 1463
Hearing Date January 29, 2003

Rep. Niemeier: at 200% of poverty, possibility of access in family coverage.

Rep. Price: Restriction is in Federal whether net or gross.

Rep. Pollert moved a motion for DO NOT PASS, second by Rep. Porter.

Rep. Wieland: noted that its a large jump from 140% to 200%.

Rep. Price explains procedure: Medicaid program is first, it covers children 0 to 6 at a 133% of poverty and children 6 to 18 at 100% of poverty. If they are not eligible for Medicaid, they go to CHIPS up to 140% net, if they are above that income guideline, 200% of poverty then they are eligible for Caring for Kids. This is a Basic policy, not a comprehensive plan at all.

Rep. Sandvig: Are we losing Federal dollars? Answer: we are also losing money on Medicaid.

Rep. Price: states she intends to lobby appropriations to fully fund CHIPS as it is.

VOTE: 7 - 6 - 0

Rep. Weisz will carry the bill.

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FISCAL NOTE
 Requested by Legislative Council
 01/27/2003

REVISION

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1463

1A. **State fiscal effect:** Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.

	2001-2003 Biennium		2003-2005 Biennium		2005-2007 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,582,610	\$0	\$8,805,696
Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$1,329,415	\$4,582,610	\$2,596,200	\$8,805,696
Appropriations	\$0	\$0	\$1,329,415	\$4,582,610		

1B. **County, city, and school district fiscal effect:** Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.

2001-2003 Biennium			2003-2005 Biennium			2005-2007 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts
\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

2. **Narrative:** Identify the aspects of the measure which cause fiscal impact and include any comments relevant to your analysis.

This bill amends and reenacts subsection 6.a. of section 50-29-04 of the Century Code to increase the income eligibility requirement for the children's health insurance program to two hundred percent of the poverty line.

3. **State fiscal effect detail:** For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:
 A. **Revenues:** Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.

Other funds consist of federal funds at the federal medical assistance percentage as provided under Title XXI of the Social Security Act.

B. **Expenditures:** Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.

This bill increases the grants line item by \$5,912,025 to allow for an increase in the income eligibility requirement to two hundred percent of poverty.

C. **Appropriations:** Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, of the effect on the biennial appropriation for each agency and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget. Indicate the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations.

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Salvatore Riccardi
 Operator's Signature

10/16/03
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The executive budget includes costs for the children's health insurance program at one hundred forty percent of poverty as provided by law. This bill increases income eligibility requirement to two hundred percent of poverty, which would require an increase in appropriations for 2003-05 of \$5,912,025 of which \$1,329,415 would be general funds.

Name:	Debra A. McDermott	Agency:	Human Services
Phone Number:	328-3695	Date Prepared:	01/29/2003

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