

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2001**

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HOUSE BILL 204

Short Title: NC Health Choice/No Waiting Period. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Nesbitt; Adams, Barefoot, Insko, Luebke, Walker, and Womble.

Referred to: Health.

February 22, 2001

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO REPEAL THE WAITING PERIOD FOR COVERAGE UNDER THE
3 NORTH CAROLINA HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN
4 (NORTH CAROLINA HEALTH CHOICE).

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 108A-70.18 reads as rewritten:

7 **"§ 108A-70.18. Definitions.**

8 As used in this Part, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the term:

- 9 (1) 'Comprehensive health coverage' means creditable health coverage as
10 defined under Title XXI.
11 (2) 'Family income' has the same meaning as used in determining
12 eligibility for the Medical Assistance Program.
13 (3) 'FPL' or 'federal poverty level' means the federal poverty guidelines
14 established by the United States Department of Health and Human
15 Services, as revised each April 1.
16 (4) 'Medical Assistance Program' means the State Medical Assistance
17 Program established under Part 6 of Article 2 of Chapter 108A of the
18 General Statutes.
19 (5) 'Program' means The Health Insurance Program for Children
20 established in this Part.
21 (6) 'State Plan' means the State Child Health Plan for the State Children's
22 Health Insurance Program established under Title XXI.
23 (7) 'Title XXI' means Title XXI of the Social Security Act, as added by
24 Pub. L. 105-33, 111 Stat. 552, codified in scattered sections of 42
25 U.S.C. (1997).
26 (8) 'Uninsured' means the applicant for Program benefits is not covered
27 under any private or employer-sponsored comprehensive health

1 ~~insurance plan on the date of application. and was not covered under~~
2 ~~any private or employer sponsored comprehensive health insurance~~
3 ~~plan for 60 days immediately preceding the date of application. The~~
4 ~~waiting periods required under this subdivision shall be waived if:~~

- 5 a. ~~The child has been enrolled in Medicaid and has lost Medicaid~~
6 ~~eligibility;~~
7 b. ~~The child has lost health care benefits due to cessation of a~~
8 ~~nonprofit organization program that provides health care~~
9 ~~benefits to low income children;~~
10 e. ~~The child has lost employer sponsored comprehensive health~~
11 ~~care coverage due to termination of employment, cessation by~~
12 ~~the employer of employer sponsored health coverage, or~~
13 ~~cessation of the employer's business; or~~
14 d. ~~Health insurance benefits available to the family of a special~~
15 ~~needs child have been terminated due to a long term disability~~
16 ~~or a substantial reduction in or limitation of lifetime medical~~
17 ~~benefits or benefit category. As used in this paragraph, "special~~
18 ~~needs child" has the definition applied in G.S. 108A-70.23(a)."~~

19 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2001.