

Health Care/Reform

AB 112 – HIRSP Eligibility

Rep. Bernard Schaber

Summary of Bill:

Assembly Bill 112 concerns eligibility under the Health Insurance Risk-Sharing Plan (H.I.R.S.P.).

Currently, individuals who are eligible for coverage under HIRSP have been denied coverage through private insurance. These individuals are required to have been rejected twice and have written proof (two rejection letters). AB 112 reduces the requirement of two rejections of private insurance, down to one rejection (with written proof); this had been the requirement prior to 2005 Act 74 (2005 AB 844 - Nishcke).

Fiscal Effect:

There was no fiscal estimate required for Assembly Bill 112.

Supporters Message:

Assembly Bill 112 will improve access to insurance coverage for individuals who otherwise would have few alternative options, beyond Medicare.

Opponents Message:

The change in the rejection requirement for eligibility could increase the number of individuals on HIRSP.

Key Supporters:

Penny Bernard Schaber, Representative, 57th Assembly District (author); Amie Goldman, Madison, CEO HIRSP Authority; Robert Kraig, Milwaukee, Citizen Action of Wisconsin; Jeremy Levin, Madison, Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative; Sean Dilweg, Madison, Commissioner, Office of the Commissioner of Insurance.

Key Opponents:

No one testified or registered against AB112, and no one registered against it with the Ethics Board.

Committee Vote:

On May 8th, 2009, 2009, the Assembly Committee on Health and Health Care Reform recommended passage of AB112, on a unanimous vote of 13 - 0.

Staff Author of Bill Summary

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