

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 1553 CS Medicaid
SPONSOR(S): Pickens and others
TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** CS/SB 1994

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1) Health Care General Committee	9 Y, 0 N	Schiefelbein	Brown-Barrios
2) Health Care Appropriations Committee	11 Y, 0 N, w/CS	Speir	Massengale
3) Health & Families Council			
4) _____	_____	_____	_____
5) _____	_____	_____	_____

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

House Bill 1553 CS amends section 409.906, Florida Statutes, to provide vision services to adult Medicaid recipients. An appropriation of \$6 million is provided for Fiscal Year 2005-2006 to fund adult vision services.

This bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2005.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

Provides limited government— The bill expands optional Medicaid services by providing adult vision services.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

The Adult Dental, Visual and Hearing services program was eliminated, effective July 1, 2002, in the 2001 Special Session "C" (chapter 2001-377, Laws of Florida). The 2002 Legislature restored the hearing and vision services with nonrecurring funds prior to the elimination of the services on July 1, 2002, and funded emergency dental services for adults. The 2003 Legislature did not continue the funding for adult vision and hearing services so that they were eliminated effective July 1, 2003. Adult dental (dentures) services were restored effective January 1, 2005.

Florida's Medicaid Program currently provides, under optional Medicaid services, reimbursement for visual services rendered by licensed, Medicaid participating ophthalmologists, optometrists and opticians. Medicaid reimbursable services include visual examinations, refractions, eyeglasses and eyeglass repairs for children less than 21 years of age. Services for recipients age 21 and older are limited to prosthetic eyes and specialized contact lenses. There is a \$2 recipient co-payment for optometric services, per provider, per day, unless the recipient is exempt.

Section 409.906, Florida Statutes, provides the framework for the Agency for Health Care Administration to provide optional Medicaid services. This bill amends section 409.906, Florida Statutes, to provide adult vision services to approximately 675,000 adult Medicaid recipients.

An appropriation of \$2,399,934 from the General Revenue Fund, \$3,437,897 from the Medical Care Trust Fund, and \$190,394 from the Refugee Assistance Trust Fund is made to the Agency for Health Care Administration for the 2005-2006 fiscal year to provide adult vision services to Medicaid recipients. Vision services include two pair of eyeglasses per recipient per year, as well as necessary eyeglass repairs. Contact lenses are provided to recipients who have unilateral aphakia or bilateral aphakia.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Amends s. 409.906(23), F.S., restoring optional Medicaid vision services to adults.

Section 2. Provides an appropriation.

Section 3. Provides an effective date.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:	FY 2005-06	FY 2006-07
General Revenue Fund	\$2,399,934	\$2,519,931
Medical Care Trust Fund	\$3,437,897	\$3,609,792
Refugee Assistance Trust Fund	<u>\$ 190,394</u>	<u>\$ 199,914</u>
Total Funds	\$6,028,225	\$6,329,637

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

Adult Medicaid beneficiaries will be able to receive eyeglasses, in addition to the already provided eye exams. Providers of vision services would receive more than \$6 million in Medicaid reimbursements.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

This bill does not require counties or municipalities to spend funds or take an action requiring the expenditure of funds. This bill does not reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with counties or municipalities. This bill does not reduce the authority that municipalities have to raise revenue.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

The Agency for Health Care Administration has sufficient rulemaking authority to implement the provisions of the bill.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE & COMBINED BILL CHANGES

On April 12, 2005, the Health Care Appropriations committee adopted one amendment to provide an appropriation to the Agency for Health Care Administration to fund vision services.

This analysis is drafted to the committee substitute.