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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**SENATE BILL**

**No. 1564** Session of  
2008

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INTRODUCED BY BRUBAKER, PILEGGI, WONDERLING, VANCE, CORMAN,  
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SEPTEMBER 16, 2008

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REFERRED TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE, SEPTEMBER 16, 2008

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AN ACT

1 Establishing the Keystone Care Program in the Department of  
2 Health to provide grants for health care services; and making  
3 an appropriation.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 CHAPTER 1

7 PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

8 Section 101. Short title.

9 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Keystone Care  
10 Program Act.

11 Section 102. Definitions.

12 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
13 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
14 context clearly indicates otherwise:

15 "Community-based health care clinic." A nonprofit health  
16 care center located in this Commonwealth that provides health  
17 care services to low-income and uninsured individuals, and meets  
18 either of the following criteria:

1 (1) serves a federally designated medically underserved  
2 area, a medically underserved population or a health  
3 professional shortage area; or

4 (2) serves a patient population with a majority of that  
5 population having an income less than 200% of the Federal  
6 poverty income guidelines, including:

7 (i) A federally qualified health center as defined  
8 in section 1905(1)(2)(B) of the Social Security Act (49  
9 Stat. 620, 42 U.S.C. § 1396d(1)(2)(B)) or a federally  
10 qualified health center look-alike.

11 (ii) A rural health clinic as defined in section  
12 1861(aa)(2) of the Social Security Act (49 Stat. 620, 42  
13 U.S.C. § 1395x(aa)(2)), certified by Medicare.

14 (iii) A hospital health clinic.

15 (iv) A free or partial-pay health clinic that  
16 provides services by volunteer and nonvolunteer health  
17 care providers.

18 (v) A nurse-managed health care clinic that is  
19 managed by advanced practice nurses and is associated  
20 with a department of nursing, a federally qualified  
21 health center or an independent nonprofit health or  
22 social services agency.

23 "Health care resource network." A sustainable, integrated  
24 network organized by a nonprofit entity to use community-based  
25 health care clinics and an organized physician volunteer  
26 component to provide access to a full continuum of health care  
27 services for participating patients residing in a local delivery  
28 area.

29 "Local delivery area." A city, county, multicounty or other  
30 regional area within this Commonwealth that institutes a health

1 care resource network in accordance with this act.

2 "Participating patient." An individual who meets the  
3 criteria set forth in section 303.

4 "Program." The Keystone Care (KeyCare) Program established  
5 in section 301.

6 CHAPTER 3

7 KEYCARE PROGRAM

8 Section 301. Program.

9 (a) Establishment of KeyCare Program.--The Keystone Care  
10 (KeyCare) Program is hereby established within the Department of  
11 Health to administer and provide grants to an approved health  
12 care resource network.

13 (b) Purpose.--Health care resource networks across this  
14 Commonwealth shall be created to do all of the following:

15 (1) Encourage physicians, hospitals, dentists and other  
16 health care partners such as nurses, nurse practitioners,  
17 physician assistants, certified nurse midwives and dental  
18 hygienists to volunteer for participation in a health care  
19 resource network.

20 (2) Establish a referral system for participating  
21 patients with preference given to individuals referred from  
22 community-based health care clinics.

23 (3) Promote the support and involvement of interested  
24 persons, businesses and charitable organizations and  
25 foundations within local delivery areas for the formation and  
26 operation of networks.

27 Section 302. Health care resource network capacity and access.

28 A health care resource network shall make available the  
29 following health care services for participating patients:

30 (1) Expanded health care capacity and access for

1 participating patients.

2 (2) Participation of voluntary health care providers who  
3 donate their services and agree to see a set number of  
4 participating patients per year.

5 (3) Structured private physician specialty and primary  
6 care referral.

7 (4) Structured dentist referral that may include a  
8 network of dental services utilizing dental hygienist  
9 services under general dental supervision.

10 (5) Health care services which may vary by network.

11 (6) Preventative and chronic care and disease management  
12 that promotes wellness and patient responsibility and  
13 accountability through responsibility agreements by  
14 participating patients.

15 (7) Diagnostic and ancillary services.

16 (8) Centralized financial screening, enrollment and  
17 patient referrals.

18 Section 303. Participating patient requirements.

19 A participating patient shall meet all of the following  
20 requirements:

21 (1) Be a Pennsylvania resident and reside in the local  
22 delivery area health care resource network for at least six  
23 months.

24 (2) Be at least 19 but less than 65 years of age.

25 (3) Have income that does not exceed 200% of Federal  
26 poverty income guidelines.

27 (4) Not receive or be eligible for Medicare or Medicaid.

28 (5) Not receive any other Federal or State medical  
29 benefits.

30 (6) Not be covered by any other private health

1 insurance.

2 (7) Show an established health care need for primary or  
3 specialty medical care services.

4 Section 304. Administration.

5 The Department of Health shall do all of the following:

6 (1) Administer the KeyCare Program.

7 (2) Within 90 days of the effective date of this  
8 section, develop and provide an application form consistent  
9 with this act. A grant under this section may be extended  
10 over two State fiscal years at the request of a health care  
11 resource network.

12 (3) Establish a process to allocate funding and issue  
13 grants based on any of the following:

14 (i) Initial creation of a health care resource  
15 network in a local delivery area.

16 (ii) Operation of a network in accordance with the  
17 requirements of this act.

18 (iii) Administration of a patient referral system  
19 that includes patient appointment reminder telephone  
20 calls.

21 (iv) Partnership between local government  
22 administration, private physicians, community-based  
23 health care clinics, medical societies, hospitals, area  
24 health education centers, pharmacists, social services  
25 and patients located in a local delivery area.

26 (4) Calculate and make grants to qualified health care  
27 resource networks from the funds deposited in the fund.

28 (5) Make the report required in section 305 available  
29 for public inspection and posted on the Department of  
30 Health's publicly accessible Internet website.

