

House Bill 163 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Cooper of the 43rd, Gaines of the 117th, Dempsey of the 13th, Frye of the 118th, Lumsden of the 12th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 7 of Chapter 4 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to medical assistance generally, so as to direct the Department of Community Health
3 to submit a state plan amendment to implement express lane eligibility in Medicaid and the
4 PeachCare for Kids Program; to direct the Department of Human Services to automatically
5 enroll and renew eligible children in Medicaid and the PeachCare for Kids Program, based
6 on application data received for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; to provide
7 for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Article 7 of Chapter 4 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
11 medical assistance generally, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

12 "49-4-159.1.

13 (a) No later than June 30, 2022, the department shall submit a state plan amendment to the
14 federal Department of Health and Human Services to implement express lane eligibility in
15 accordance with section 1902(e)(13) of the federal Social Security Act to determine
16 whether a child meets one or more of the eligibility criteria for and enroll the child in

17 Medicaid and the PeachCare for Kids Program. Such state plan amendment shall include,
18 but not be limited to, reliance on a finding made by the Division of Family and Children
19 Services of the Department of Human Services in determining eligibility of applicants for
20 the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and other programs as identified
21 by the department and the Division of Family and Children Services of the Department of
22 Human Services.

23 (b) Upon approval of a state plan amendment, the Division of Family and Children
24 Services of the Department of Human Services shall employ express lane eligibility by
25 evaluating data received from applicants for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance
26 Program and other programs, as identified by the department and the Division of Family
27 and Children Services of the Department of Human Services, to determine eligibility for
28 Medicaid and the PeachCare for Kids Program and to provide for automatic enrollment and
29 renewal of eligible children in Medicaid and the PeachCare for Kids Program."

30

SECTION 2.

31 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.