

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 134

By Dixie

A RESOLUTION urging the Bureau of TennCare to seek a Section 1115 waiver to provide housing solutions for Tennesseans in need.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly recognizes that Section 1115 of the Social Security Act gives the Secretary of Health and Human Services the authority to approve experimental, pilot, or demonstration projects to give states additional flexibility to design and improve state Medicaid programs in order to allow the Secretary to evaluate state-specific policy approaches to better serve Medicaid populations; and

WHEREAS, housing presents a unique challenge to Tennessee's Medicaid population in light of ever-increasing inflationary pressures, including rental prices and other associated housing costs; and

WHEREAS, a Section 1115 waiver to provide housing solutions for Tennesseans in need would greatly assist Tennessee's Medicaid population with such challenges; and

WHEREAS, such a waiver should provide rent or temporary housing for up to six months for individuals transitioning out of institutional care or congregate settings such as nursing facilities, large group homes, congregate residential settings, institutions for mental diseases, correctional facilities, and acute care hospitals; for individuals who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or transitioning out of an emergency shelter as defined in 24 CFR 91.5; and for youth transitioning out of the child welfare system including foster care; and

WHEREAS, such a waiver should provide traditional respite services, day habilitation programs and sobering centers, pre-tenancy and tenancy sustaining services, housing transition navigation services, and one-time transition and moving costs; and

WHEREAS, such a waiver should provide medically necessary home accessibility modifications and remediation services, such as carpet replacement, mold and pest removal, and ventilation improvements, as well as medically necessary home environment modifications, such as air filtration, air conditioning, and heating; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that the General Assembly hereby urges the Bureau of TennCare to seek a Section 1115 waiver to provide housing solutions for Tennesseans in need.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.