

ACT No. 352

HOUSE BILL NO. 366

BY REPRESENTATIVES KATZ, ARMES, AUBERT, BOBBY BADON, BALDONE, BARROW, BILLIOT, BURFORD, HENRY BURNS, CHAMPAGNE, CHANDLER, CROMER, DOERGE, EDWARDS, ELLINGTON, FANNIN, FRANKLIN, GALLOT, GISCLAIR, ELBERT GUILLORY, GUINN, HARRISON, HAZEL, HILL, HINES, HOFFMANN, HONEY, HOWARD, HUTTER, GIROD JACKSON, MICHAEL JACKSON, JOHNSON, ROSALIND JONES, LABRUZZO, LAFONTA, LEBAS, LEGER, LIGI, LORUSSO, MARCHAND, MILLS, MORRELL, NORTON, NOWLIN, PEARSON, PETERSON, POPE, PUGH, RICHMOND, RITCHIE, SIMON, SMILEY, ST. GERMAIN, TEMPLET, TRAHAN, TUCKER, WILLIAMS, AND WILLMOTT AND SENATOR GRAY

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 46:450.6, relative to Medicaid benefits for former foster children; to allow the
3 Department of Health and Hospitals to exercise its option to extend an alternative
4 benefits package under the Medical Assistance Plan to independent foster care
5 adolescents; to provide for the components of an alternative benefits package; to
6 authorize the department to choose between regular Medicaid benefits or the
7 alternative benefits package on behalf of participants; to provide for the
8 promulgation of rules and regulations by the Department of Health and Hospitals;
9 and to provide for related matters.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 46:450.6 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 §450.6. Election of Chafee Option

13 A. To the extent federal financial participation is available pursuant to an
14 approved state Medicaid plan amendment, the Department of Health and Hospitals
15 shall exercise its option under 42 U.S.C. 1396a(10)(A)(ii)(XVII) to extend to
16 independent foster care adolescents as defined by 42 U.S.C. 1396d(w)(1) who are
17 not otherwise Medicaid eligible in accordance with such requirements as were in
18 effect as of April 1, 2008, either: (1) an alternative benefits package authorized by

1 42 U.S.C. 1396u-7 as set forth in Subsection B of this Section; or (2) regular
2 Medicaid benefits under the Medical Assistance Plan.

3 B. For purposes of Subsection A of this Section, the alternative benefits
4 package may include:

5 (1) A high deductible private insurance policy.

6 (2) A health savings account.

7 (3) A program to educate recipients about health insurance.

8 C. The department shall have the authority to decide whether to provide
9 either regular Medicaid benefits or the alternative benefits package as set forth in
10 Subsection B of this Section to independent foster care adolescents.

11 D. The department shall promulgate rules and regulations to define the
12 individual components of the alternative benefits package as set forth in Subsection
13 B of this Section in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____