## 2025 SESSION

## **ENROLLED**

## VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY - CHAPTER emergency. Approved Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia: 1. That § 32.1-325 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows: § 32.1-325. Board to submit plan for medical assistance services to U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services pursuant to federal law; administration of plan; contracts with health care providers. A. The Board, subject to the approval of the Governor, is authorized to prepare, amend from time to time, and submit to the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services a state plan for medical assistance services pursuant to Title XIX of the United States Social Security Act and any amendments thereto. The Board shall include in such plan: 1. A provision for payment of medical assistance on behalf of individuals, up to the age of 21, placed in foster homes or private institutions by private, nonprofit agencies licensed as child-placing agencies by the Department of Social Services or placed through state and local subsidized adoptions to the extent permitted under federal statute: 2. A provision for determining eligibility for benefits for medically needy individuals which disregards from countable resources an amount not in excess of \$3,500 for the individual and an amount not in excess of \$3,500 for his spouse when such resources have been set aside to meet the burial expenses of the individual or his spouse. The amount disregarded shall be reduced by (i) the face value of life insurance on the life of an individual owned by the individual or his spouse if the cash surrender value of such policies has been excluded from countable resources and (ii) the amount of any other revocable or irrevocable trust, contract, or other arrangement specifically designated for the purpose of meeting the individual's or his spouse's burial expenses; 3. A requirement that, in determining eligibility, a home shall be disregarded. For those medically needy persons whose eligibility for medical assistance is required by federal law to be dependent on the budget methodology for Aid to Families with Dependent Children, a home means the house and lot used as the principal residence and all contiguous property. For all other persons, a home shall mean the house and lot used as the principal residence, as well as all contiguous property, as long as the value of the land, exclusive of the lot occupied by the house, does not exceed \$5,000. In any case in which the definition of home as provided here is more restrictive than that provided in the state plan for medical assistance services in Virginia as it was in effect on January 1, 1972, then a home means the house and lot used as the principal residence and all contiguous property essential to the operation of the home regardless of value; 4. A provision for payment of medical assistance on behalf of individuals up to the age of 21, who are Medicaid eligible, for medically necessary stays in acute care facilities in excess of 21 days per admission; 5. A provision for deducting from an institutionalized recipient's income an amount for the maintenance of the individual's spouse at home; 6. A provision for payment of medical assistance on behalf of pregnant women which provides for payment for inpatient postpartum treatment in accordance with the medical criteria outlined in the most current version of or an official update to the "Guidelines for Perinatal Care" prepared by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists or the "Standards for Obstetric-Gynecologic Services" prepared by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Payment shall be made for any postpartum home visit or visits for the mothers and the children which are within the time periods recommended by the attending physicians in accordance with and as indicated by such Guidelines or Standards. For the purposes of this subdivision, such Guidelines or Standards shall include any changes thereto within six months of the publication of such Guidelines or Standards or any official amendment thereto; 7. A provision for the payment for family planning services on behalf of women who were Medicaideligible for prenatal care and delivery as provided in this section at the time of delivery. Such family planning services shall begin with delivery and continue for a period of 24 months, if the woman continues to meet the

52 53 financial eligibility requirements for a pregnant woman under Medicaid. For the purposes of this section, 54 family planning services shall not cover payment for abortion services and no funds shall be used to perform, 55 assist, encourage or make direct referrals for abortions;

56 8. A provision for payment of medical assistance for high-dose chemotherapy and bone marrow

An Act to amend and reenact § 32.1-325 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Department of Medical 3 Assistance Services; state plan for medical assistance services; rapid whole genome sequencing;

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57 transplants on behalf of individuals over the age of 21 who have been diagnosed with lymphoma, breast 58 cancer, myeloma, or leukemia and have been determined by the treating health care provider to have a 59 performance status sufficient to proceed with such high-dose chemotherapy and bone marrow transplant. 60 Appeals of these cases shall be handled in accordance with the Department's expedited appeals process;

9. A provision identifying entities approved by the Board to receive applications and to determine 61 62 eligibility for medical assistance, which shall include a requirement that such entities (i) obtain accurate 63 contact information, including the best available address and telephone number, from each applicant for 64 medical assistance, to the extent required by federal law and regulations, and (ii) provide each applicant for medical assistance with information about advance directives pursuant to Article 8 (§ 54.1-2981 et seq.) of 65 66 Chapter 29 of Title 54.1, including information about the purpose and benefits of advance directives and how 67 the applicant may make an advance directive;

68 10. A provision for breast reconstructive surgery following the medically necessary removal of a breast 69 for any medical reason. Breast reductions shall be covered, if prior authorization has been obtained, for all 70 medically necessary indications. Such procedures shall be considered noncosmetic; 71

11. A provision for payment of medical assistance for annual pap smears;

72 12. A provision for payment of medical assistance services for prostheses following the medically 73 necessary complete or partial removal of a breast for any medical reason;

74 13. A provision for payment of medical assistance which provides for payment for 48 hours of inpatient 75 treatment for a patient following a radical or modified radical mastectomy and 24 hours of inpatient care following a total mastectomy or a partial mastectomy with lymph node dissection for treatment of disease or 76 77 trauma of the breast. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed as requiring the provision of inpatient 78 coverage where the attending physician in consultation with the patient determines that a shorter period of 79 hospital stay is appropriate;

80 14. A requirement that certificates of medical necessity for durable medical equipment and any supporting verifiable documentation shall be signed, dated, and returned by the physician, physician assistant, or 81 82 advanced practice registered nurse and in the durable medical equipment provider's possession within 60 days from the time the ordered durable medical equipment and supplies are first furnished by the durable medical 83 84 equipment provider;

85 15. A provision for payment of medical assistance to (i) persons age 50 and over and (ii) persons age 40 86 and over who are at high risk for prostate cancer, according to the most recent published guidelines of the 87 American Cancer Society, for one PSA test in a 12-month period and digital rectal examinations, all in 88 accordance with American Cancer Society guidelines. For the purpose of this subdivision, "PSA testing" 89 means the analysis of a blood sample to determine the level of prostate specific antigen;

90 16. A provision for payment of medical assistance for low-dose screening mammograms for determining 91 the presence of occult breast cancer. Such coverage shall make available one screening mammogram to 92 persons age 35 through 39, one such mammogram biennially to persons age 40 through 49, and one such 93 mammogram annually to persons age 50 and over. The term "mammogram" means an X-ray examination of 94 the breast using equipment dedicated specifically for mammography, including but not limited to the X-ray 95 tube, filter, compression device, screens, film and cassettes, with an average radiation exposure of less than 96 one rad mid-breast, two views of each breast;

97 17. A provision, when in compliance with federal law and regulation and approved by the Centers for 98 Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), for payment of medical assistance services delivered to 99 Medicaid-eligible students when such services qualify for reimbursement by the Virginia Medicaid program 100 and may be provided by school divisions, regardless of whether the student receiving care has an 101 individualized education program or whether the health care service is included in a student's individualized 102 education program. Such services shall include those covered under the state plan for medical assistance services or by the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit as specified in § 103 104 1905(r) of the federal Social Security Act, and shall include a provision for payment of medical assistance for health care services provided through telemedicine services, as defined in § 38.2-3418.16. No health care 105 provider who provides health care services through telemedicine shall be required to use proprietary 106 technology or applications in order to be reimbursed for providing telemedicine services; 107

108 18. A provision for payment of medical assistance services for liver, heart and lung transplantation 109 procedures for individuals over the age of 21 years when (i) there is no effective alternative medical or 110 surgical therapy available with outcomes that are at least comparable; (ii) the transplant procedure and application of the procedure in treatment of the specific condition have been clearly demonstrated to be 111 medically effective and not experimental or investigational; (iii) prior authorization by the Department of 112 Medical Assistance Services has been obtained; (iv) the patient selection criteria of the specific transplant 113 114 center where the surgery is proposed to be performed have been used by the transplant team or program to 115 determine the appropriateness of the patient for the procedure; (v) current medical therapy has failed and the 116 patient has failed to respond to appropriate therapeutic management; (vi) the patient is not in an irreversible terminal state; and (vii) the transplant is likely to prolong the patient's life and restore a range of physical and 117 118 social functioning in the activities of daily living;

19. A provision for payment of medical assistance for colorectal cancer screening, specifically screening
 with an annual fecal occult blood test, flexible sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy, or in appropriate
 circumstances radiologic imaging, in accordance with the most recently published recommendations
 established by the American College of Gastroenterology, in consultation with the American Cancer Society,
 for the ages, family histories, and frequencies referenced in such recommendations;

20. A provision for payment of medical assistance for custom ocular prostheses;

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21. A provision for payment for medical assistance for infant hearing screenings and all necessary
audiological examinations provided pursuant to § 32.1-64.1 using any technology approved by the United
States Food and Drug Administration, and as recommended by the national Joint Committee on Infant
Hearing in its most current position statement addressing early hearing detection and intervention programs.
Such provision shall include payment for medical assistance for follow-up audiological examinations as
recommended by a physician, physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, or audiologist and
performed by a licensed audiologist to confirm the existence or absence of hearing loss;

132 22. A provision for payment of medical assistance, pursuant to the Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention 133 and Treatment Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-354), for certain women with breast or cervical cancer when such 134 women (i) have been screened for breast or cervical cancer under the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program established under Title XV of the 135 Public Health Service Act; (ii) need treatment for breast or cervical cancer, including treatment for a 136 precancerous condition of the breast or cervix; (iii) are not otherwise covered under creditable coverage, as 137 138 defined in § 2701 (c) of the Public Health Service Act; (iv) are not otherwise eligible for medical assistance 139 services under any mandatory categorically needy eligibility group; and (v) have not attained age 65. This 140 provision shall include an expedited eligibility determination for such women;

23. A provision for the coordinated administration, including outreach, enrollment, re-enrollment and
services delivery, of medical assistance services provided to medically indigent children pursuant to this
chapter, which shall be called Family Access to Medical Insurance Security (FAMIS) Plus and the FAMIS
Plan program in § 32.1-351. A single application form shall be used to determine eligibility for both
programs;

146 24. A provision, when authorized by and in compliance with federal law, to establish a public-private 147 long-term care partnership program between the Commonwealth of Virginia and private insurance companies 148 that shall be established through the filing of an amendment to the state plan for medical assistance services 149 by the Department of Medical Assistance Services. The purpose of the program shall be to reduce Medicaid 150 costs for long-term care by delaying or eliminating dependence on Medicaid for such services through 151 encouraging the purchase of private long-term care insurance policies that have been designated as qualified 152 state long-term care insurance partnerships and may be used as the first source of benefits for the participant's long-term care. Components of the program, including the treatment of assets for Medicaid eligibility and 153 154 estate recovery, shall be structured in accordance with federal law and applicable federal guidelines;

25. A provision for the payment of medical assistance for otherwise eligible pregnant women during the
first five years of lawful residence in the United States, pursuant to § 214 of the Children's Health Insurance
Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (P.L. 111-3);

26. A provision for the payment of medical assistance for medically necessary health care services
provided through telemedicine services, as defined in § 38.2-3418.16, regardless of the originating site or
whether the patient is accompanied by a health care provider at the time such services are provided. No health
care provider who provides health care services through telemedicine services shall be required to use
proprietary technology or applications in order to be reimbursed for providing telemedicine services.

For the purposes of this subdivision, a health care provider duly licensed by the Commonwealth who
 provides health care services exclusively through telemedicine services shall not be required to maintain a
 physical presence in the Commonwealth to be considered an eligible provider for enrollment as a Medicaid
 provider.

167 For the purposes of this subdivision, a telemedicine services provider group with health care providers168 duly licensed by the Commonwealth shall not be required to have an in-state service address to be eligible to169 enroll as a Medicaid vendor or Medicaid provider group.

For the purposes of this subdivision, "originating site" means any location where the patient is located, including any medical care facility or office of a health care provider, the home of the patient, the patient's place of employment, or any public or private primary or secondary school or postsecondary institution of higher education at which the person to whom telemedicine services are provided is located;

174 27. A provision for the payment of medical assistance for the dispensing or furnishing of up to a 12-month 175 supply of hormonal contraceptives at one time. Absent clinical contraindications, the Department shall not 176 impose any utilization controls or other forms of medical management limiting the supply of hormonal 177 contraceptives that may be dispensed or furnished to an amount less than a 12-month supply. Nothing in this 178 subdivision shall be construed to (i) require a provider to prescribe, dispense, or furnish a 12-month supply of 179 self-administered hormonal contraceptives at one time or (ii) exclude coverage for hormonal contraceptives 180 as prescribed by a prescriber, acting within his scope of practice, for reasons other than contraceptive purposes. As used in this subdivision, "hormonal contraceptive" means a medication taken to prevent
pregnancy by means of ingestion of hormones, including medications containing estrogen or progesterone,
that is self-administered, requires a prescription, and is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration

184 for such purpose;

185 28. A provision for payment of medical assistance for remote patient monitoring services provided via 186 telemedicine, as defined in § 38.2-3418.16, for (i) high-risk pregnant persons; (ii) medically complex infants 187 and children; (iii) transplant patients; (iv) patients who have undergone surgery, for up to three months 188 following the date of such surgery; and (v) patients with a chronic or acute health condition who have had 189 two or more hospitalizations or emergency department visits related to such health condition in the previous 190 12 months when there is evidence that the use of remote patient monitoring is likely to prevent readmission of such patient to a hospital or emergency department. For the purposes of this subdivision, "remote patient 191 192 monitoring services" means the use of digital technologies to collect medical and other forms of health data 193 from patients in one location and electronically transmit that information securely to health care providers in 194 a different location for analysis, interpretation, and recommendations, and management of the patient. "Remote patient monitoring services" includes monitoring of clinical patient data such as weight, blood 195 196 pressure, pulse, pulse oximetry, blood glucose, and other patient physiological data, treatment adherence 197 monitoring, and interactive videoconferencing with or without digital image upload;

198 29. A provision for the payment of medical assistance for provider-to-provider consultations that is no
 199 more restrictive than, and is at least equal in amount, duration, and scope to, that available through the fee 200 for-service program;

30. A provision for payment of the originating site fee to emergency medical services agencies for
facilitating synchronous telehealth visits with a distant site provider delivered to a Medicaid member. As used
in this subdivision, "originating site" means any location where the patient is located, including any medical
care facility or office of a health care provider, the home of the patient, the patient's place of employment, or
any public or private primary or secondary school or postsecondary institution of higher education at which
the person to whom telemedicine services are provided is located;

207 31. A provision for the payment of medical assistance for targeted case management services for
 208 individuals with severe traumatic brain injury;

209 32. A provision for payment of medical assistance for the initial purchase or replacement of complex 210 rehabilitative technology manual and power wheelchair bases and related accessories, as defined by the Department's durable medical equipment program policy, for patients who reside in nursing facilities. Initial 211 purchase or replacement may be contingent upon (i) determination of medical necessity; (ii) requirements in 212 213 accordance with regulations established through the Department's durable medical equipment program 214 policy; and (iii) exclusive use by the nursing facility resident. Recipients of medical assistance shall not be 215 required to pay any deductible, coinsurance, copayment, or patient costs related to the initial purchase or 216 replacement of complex rehabilitative technology manual and power wheelchair bases and related 217 accessories; and

218 33. A provision for payment of medical assistance for remote ultrasound procedures and remote fetal 219 non-stress tests. Such provision shall utilize established CPT codes for these procedures and shall apply when 220 the patient is in a residence or other off-site location from the patient's provider that provides the same 221 standard of care. The provision shall provide for reimbursement only when a provider uses digital technology 222 (i) to collect medical and other forms of health data from a patient and electronically transmit that 223 information securely to a health care provider in a different location for interpretation and recommendation; 224 (ii) that is compliant with the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (42 U.S.C. 225 § 1320d et seq.); and (iii) that is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. For fetal non-stress 226 tests under CPT Code 59025, the provision shall provide for reimbursement only if such test (a) is conducted 227 with a place of service modifier for at-home monitoring and (b) uses remote monitoring solutions that are 228 approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for on-label use to monitor fetal heart rate, maternal 229 heart rate, and uterine activity; and

34. A provision for payment of medical assistance for rapid whole genome sequencing for children three
 years of age or younger who are receiving inpatient hospital services in an intensive care unit. For the
 purposes of this subdivision, "rapid whole genome sequencing" is defined as an investigation of the entire
 human genome to identify disease-causing genetic changes that returns preliminary positive results within
 seven days and final results within 15 days from the date of receipt of the sample by the lab performing the
 test. "Rapid whole genome sequencing" includes patient-only whole genome sequencing and duo and trio
 whole genome sequencing of the patient and biological parent or parents.

B. In preparing the plan, the Board shall:

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1. Work cooperatively with the State Board of Health to ensure that quality patient care is provided andthat the health, safety, security, rights and welfare of patients are ensured.

240 2. Initiate such cost containment or other measures as are set forth in the appropriation act.

3. Make, adopt, promulgate and enforce such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisionsof this chapter.

243 4. Examine, before acting on a regulation to be published in the Virginia Register of Regulations pursuant 244 to § 2.2-4007.05, the potential fiscal impact of such regulation on local boards of social services. For 245 regulations with potential fiscal impact, the Board shall share copies of the fiscal impact analysis with local 246 boards of social services prior to submission to the Registrar. The fiscal impact analysis shall include the 247 projected costs/savings to the local boards of social services to implement or comply with such regulation 248 and, where applicable, sources of potential funds to implement or comply with such regulation.

249 5. Incorporate sanctions and remedies for certified nursing facilities established by state law, in 250 accordance with 42 C.F.R. § 488.400 et seq., Enforcement of Compliance for Long-Term Care Facilities 251 With Deficiencies.

252 6. On and after July 1, 2002, require that a prescription benefit card, health insurance benefit card, or other 253 technology that complies with the requirements set forth in § 38.2-3407.4:2 be issued to each recipient of 254 medical assistance services, and shall upon any changes in the required data elements set forth in subsection 255 A of § 38.2-3407.4:2, either reissue the card or provide recipients such corrective information as may be 256 required to electronically process a prescription claim.

257 C. In order to enable the Commonwealth to continue to receive federal grants or reimbursement for 258 medical assistance or related services, the Board, subject to the approval of the Governor, may adopt, 259 regardless of any other provision of this chapter, such amendments to the state plan for medical assistance services as may be necessary to conform such plan with amendments to the United States Social Security Act 260 or other relevant federal law and their implementing regulations or constructions of these laws and 261 262 regulations by courts of competent jurisdiction or the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services.

263 In the event conforming amendments to the state plan for medical assistance services are adopted, the 264 Board shall not be required to comply with the requirements of Article 2 (§ 2.2-4006 et seq.) of Chapter 40 of Title 2.2. However, the Board shall, pursuant to the requirements of § 2.2-4002, (i) notify the Registrar of 265 266 Regulations that such amendment is necessary to meet the requirements of federal law or regulations or 267 because of the order of any state or federal court, or (ii) certify to the Governor that the regulations are 268 necessitated by an emergency situation. Any such amendments that are in conflict with the Code of Virginia shall only remain in effect until July 1 following adjournment of the next regular session of the General 269 270 Assembly unless enacted into law. 271

D. The Director of Medical Assistance Services is authorized to:

272 1. Administer such state plan and receive and expend federal funds therefor in accordance with applicable 273 federal and state laws and regulations; and enter into all contracts necessary or incidental to the performance 274 of the Department's duties and the execution of its powers as provided by law.

275 2. Enter into agreements and contracts with medical care facilities, physicians, dentists and other health 276 care providers where necessary to carry out the provisions of such state plan. Any such agreement or contract shall terminate upon conviction of the provider of a felony. In the event such conviction is reversed upon 277 278 appeal, the provider may apply to the Director of Medical Assistance Services for a new agreement or 279 contract. Such provider may also apply to the Director for reconsideration of the agreement or contract 280 termination if the conviction is not appealed, or if it is not reversed upon appeal.

281 3. Refuse to enter into or renew an agreement or contract, or elect to terminate an existing agreement or 282 contract, with any provider who has been convicted of or otherwise pled guilty to a felony, or pursuant to 283 Subparts A, B, and C of 42 C.F.R. Part 1002, and upon notice of such action to the provider as required by 42 284 C.F.R. § 1002.212.

285 4. Refuse to enter into or renew an agreement or contract, or elect to terminate an existing agreement or 286 contract, with a provider who is or has been a principal in a professional or other corporation when such 287 corporation has been convicted of or otherwise pled guilty to any violation of § 32.1-314, 32.1-315, 32.1-316, 288 or 32.1-317, or any other felony or has been excluded from participation in any federal program pursuant to 289 42 C.F.R. Part 1002.

290 5. Terminate or suspend a provider agreement with a home care organization pursuant to subsection E of § 291 32.1-162.13. 292

For the purposes of this subsection, "provider" may refer to an individual or an entity.

293 E. In any case in which a Medicaid agreement or contract is terminated or denied to a provider pursuant to 294 subsection D, the provider shall be entitled to appeal the decision pursuant to 42 C.F.R. § 1002.213 and to a 295 post-determination or post-denial hearing in accordance with the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et 296 seq.). All such requests shall be in writing and be received within 15 days of the date of receipt of the notice.

297 The Director may consider aggravating and mitigating factors including the nature and extent of any 298 adverse impact the agreement or contract denial or termination may have on the medical care provided to 299 Virginia Medicaid recipients. In cases in which an agreement or contract is terminated pursuant to subsection 300 D, the Director may determine the period of exclusion and may consider aggravating and mitigating factors to 301 lengthen or shorten the period of exclusion, and may reinstate the provider pursuant to 42 C.F.R. § 1002.215.

302 F. When the services provided for by such plan are services which a marriage and family therapist, 303 clinical psychologist, clinical social worker, professional counselor, or clinical nurse specialist is licensed to 304 render in Virginia, the Director shall contract with any duly licensed marriage and family therapist, duly

305 licensed clinical psychologist, licensed clinical social worker, licensed professional counselor or licensed 306 clinical nurse specialist who makes application to be a provider of such services, and thereafter shall pay for 307 covered services as provided in the state plan. The Board shall promulgate regulations which reimburse 308 licensed marriage and family therapists, licensed clinical psychologists, licensed clinical social workers, 309 licensed professional counselors and licensed clinical nurse specialists at rates based upon reasonable criteria, 310 including the professional credentials required for licensure.

G. The Board shall prepare and submit to the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and 311 Human Services such amendments to the state plan for medical assistance services as may be permitted by 312 federal law to establish a program of family assistance whereby children over the age of 18 years shall make 313 314 reasonable contributions, as determined by regulations of the Board, toward the cost of providing medical assistance under the plan to their parents. 315 316

H. The Department of Medical Assistance Services shall:

1. Include in its provider networks and all of its health maintenance organization contracts a provision for 317 318 the payment of medical assistance on behalf of individuals up to the age of 21 who have special needs and 319 who are Medicaid eligible, including individuals who have been victims of child abuse and neglect, for 320 medically necessary assessment and treatment services, when such services are delivered by a provider which specializes solely in the diagnosis and treatment of child abuse and neglect, or a provider with comparable 321 322 expertise, as determined by the Director.

2. Amend the Medallion II waiver and its implementing regulations to develop and implement an 323 324 exception, with procedural requirements, to mandatory enrollment for certain children between birth and age three certified by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services as eligible for services 325 326 pursuant to Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. § 1471 et seq.).

3. Utilize, to the extent practicable, electronic funds transfer technology for reimbursement to contractors 327 328 and enrolled providers for the provision of health care services under Medicaid and the Family Access to 329 Medical Insurance Security Plan established under § 32.1-351.

330 4. Require any managed care organization with which the Department enters into an agreement for the provision of medical assistance services to include in any contract between the managed care organization 331 332 and a pharmacy benefits manager provisions prohibiting the pharmacy benefits manager or a representative of the pharmacy benefits manager from conducting spread pricing with regards to the managed care organization's managed care plans. For the purposes of this subdivision: 333 334

335 "Pharmacy benefits management" means the administration or management of prescription drug benefits 336 provided by a managed care organization for the benefit of covered individuals. 337

"Pharmacy benefits manager" means a person that performs pharmacy benefits management.

338 "Spread pricing" means the model of prescription drug pricing in which the pharmacy benefits manager 339 charges a managed care plan a contracted price for prescription drugs, and the contracted price for the prescription drugs differs from the amount the pharmacy benefits manager directly or indirectly pays the 340 341 pharmacist or pharmacy for pharmacist services.

342 I. The Director is authorized to negotiate and enter into agreements for services rendered to eligible recipients with special needs. The Board shall promulgate regulations regarding these special needs patients, 343 344 to include persons with AIDS, ventilator-dependent patients, and other recipients with special needs as defined by the Board. 345

346 J. Except as provided in subdivision A 1 of § 2.2-4345, the provisions of the Virginia Public Procurement 347 Act (§ 2.2-4300 et seq.) shall not apply to the activities of the Director authorized by subsection I of this 348 section. Agreements made pursuant to this subsection shall comply with federal law and regulation.

349 K. When the services provided for by such plan are services by a pharmacist, pharmacy technician, or 350 pharmacy intern (i) performed under the terms of a collaborative agreement as defined in § 54.1-3300 and consistent with the terms of a managed care contractor provider contract or the state plan or (ii) related to 351 services and treatment in accordance with § 54.1-3303.1, the Department shall provide reimbursement for 352 353 such service.

354 2. That an emergency exists and this act is in force from its passage.