

Medical Home for Children

This Act defines the term “medical home” as a primary care practice that provides continuous, accessible, and comprehensive medical and non-medical services to a child and his or her family. It instructs the state department of health care policy and financing to develop systems and standards to maximize the number of children who are enrolled in the medical assistance program or the children’s basic health plan who have a medical home. It requires the department to report annually their progress toward maximizing the number of children who have a medical home and who are enrolled in the medical assistance program or the children’s basic health plan.

Submitted as:

Colorado

SB 130

Status: Enrolled to governor, March 2007.

Suggested State Legislation

(Title, enacting clause, etc.)

1 Section 1. [*Short Title.*] This Act shall be cited as “An Act to Address a ‘Medical Home’
2 for a Child.”

3
4 Section 2. [*Medical Home.*]

5 (1) The [general assembly] hereby finds and declares that:

6 (a) the best medical care for infants, children, and adolescents is provided through
7 a medical home, as defined in this Act, where qualified health care practitioners provide primary
8 care and help manage and facilitate all aspects of medical care;

9 (b) infants, children, and adolescents and their families work best with a health
10 care practitioner who knows the family and who develops a partnership of mutual responsibility
11 and trust;

12 (c) medical care provided through emergency departments, walk-in clinics, and
13 other urgent-care facilities is often more costly and less effective than care given by a physician
14 with prior knowledge of the child and his or her family; and

15 (d) the state [health department] should strive to find a medical home for each
16 child receiving services through the state medical assistance program, or the Children’s Basic
17 Health Plan, as defined in [insert citation].

18 (2) The state [health department] shall develop systems and standards to maximize the
19 number of children enrolled in the state medical assistance program or the Children’s Basic
20 Health Plan who have a medical home.

21 (3) the state [health department] shall report annually to the [health and human services
22 committees of the house of representatives and the senate], or any successor committees, on
23 progress made toward maximizing the number of children with a medical home who are enrolled
24 in the state medical assistance program or the Children’s Basic Health Plan.

25 (4) As used in this Act, a “medical home” means a health care practitioner who provides
26 continuous, accessible, and comprehensive medical and nonmedical services to a child and his or
27 her family.

28 (a) A medical home shall offer family-centered, compassionate, culturally
29 effective care and sensitive, respectful communication to a child and his or her family. The

30 services available to a child and his or her family through a medical home include, but are not
31 limited to:

- 32 (I) health maintenance and preventative care;
- 33 (II) anticipatory guidance and health education;
- 34 (II) acute and chronic illness care;
- 35 (IV) coordination of medications, specialists, and therapies;
- 36 (V) provider participation in hospital care; and
- 37 (VI) twenty-four-hour telephone care.

38
39 Section 3. [*Severability.*] [Insert severability clause.]

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41 Section 4. [*Repealer.*] [Insert repealer clause.]

42
43 Section 5. [*Effective Date.*] [Insert effective date.]