

SENATE NO. 72

AN ACT TO INCREASE PARTICIPATION IN CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAMS

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled,
And by the authority of the same, as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 37 of chapter 71 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:-
3 37O. Every city, town and regional school district shall include with any school enrollment form
4 and shall thereafter annually provide to the parents and guardians of any child attending school in
5 said city town or regional school district a form, to be completed and returned by said parents and
6 guardians, which contains the following:
- 7 (i) language inquiring whether or not the child to be enrolled is currently covered by a health
8 insurance policy; and
 - 9 (ii) a brief description of available state administered children's health insurance programs
10 including an overview of eligibility requirements for said programs as well as information
11 on how to contact or apply to said programs; and

12 (iii) language inquiring whether or not the parent or guardian would like to be contacted by the
13 division of medical assistance for the purpose of receiving additional information regarding
14 available state administered children's health insurance programs.

15 Within thirty days from the receipt of said completed forms, the city, town or regional school
16 district shall compile and forward to the division of medical assistance information regarding the
17 number of students who are not covered by a health insurance policy relative to the total number of
18 students, and a list of the names and addresses of those children's parents or guardians who have
19 indicated a desire to be contacted by the division for the purpose of receiving additional information
20 regarding available state administered children's health insurance programs.

21 SECTION 2. Section 52 of chapter 118E of the general laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official
22 Edition, is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following:-

23 The division of medical assistance in accordance with section 37O of chapter 71 shall contact those
24 parents who have indicated a desire to be contacted for the purpose of receiving additional
25 information regarding available state administered children's health insurance programs; provided
26 further that, said division shall utilize any data received under the requirements of said section for
27 the purpose of targeting programs to increase participation in children's health insurance programs.

28 The division of medical assistance, in consultation with the department of education, shall develop
29 and provide to each city, town and regional school district uniform language which meets the
30 requirements of section 37O of chapter 71.