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House Bill 5532 (Substitute S-1 as reported) Sponsor: Representative Nick Ciaramitaro

House Committee: Appropriations Senate Committee: Appropriations

## CONTENT

The bill would provide the initial appropriations and establish the basic framework for the operation of the MICHILD program. MICHILD is this State's version of a children's health insurance program authorized in the Federal Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

The bill would provide health care coverage to children, under age 19 from families with an income at or below 200% of poverty without access to any other insurance. These services would be obtained through managed care entities and be separate from the Medicaid program. This program is intended to be easy to access, with simplified application forms and rapid approval time. In addition, eligibility redetermination would need to be done only once a year. Annual premiums for one child would be \$96 and for two or more children a maximum of \$192. Copays would be \$5 and would be limited to nonpreauthorized prescriptions, certain dental procedures, and physical, occupational, and speech therapy.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

The bill would appropriate \$27,091,700 in Federal revenue for the remainder of FY 1997-98.

Date Completed: 3-12-98 Fiscal Analyst: J. Walker