

H. B. 2433

(By Delegates Perdue, Lawrence, Marshall, Moye,  
Poore, Ferns, Ellington and Rowan)

[Introduced February 13, 2013; referred to the  
Committee on Health and Human Resources then the  
Judiciary.]

**FISCAL  
NOTE**

A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by  
adding thereto a new section, designated §9-5-12a, relating to  
the Department of Health and Human Resources and Medicaid;  
requiring the coverage by Medicaid of dental services for the  
mother of a child who is the recipient of Medicaid services;  
and providing that coverage be for two years after the birth  
of an eligible child.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended,  
by adding thereto a new section, designated §9-5-12a, to read as  
follows:

**ARTICLE 5. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.**

**§9-5-12a. Medicaid program; dental coverage for mothers of newborn  
infants.**

(a) The Legislature finds and declares that the good health of  
a mother is essential to the health and development of a child. An

1 essential part of basic overall good health is good oral health and  
2 ensuring good oral health of a mother is a cost effective way to  
3 ensure that newborns and children under the age of two start life  
4 on a healthy course. Providing oral health to a mother will not  
5 only keep her healthier but will also help improve the health  
6 status of the next generation of West Virginians.

7 (b) The Secretary of the Department of Health and Human  
8 Resources shall extend Medicaid coverage for basic and emergency  
9 dental care to any mother of a child who is a recipient of Medicaid  
10 services during pregnancy effective July 1, 2013.

11 (c) For the purposes of this section, basic and emergency  
12 dental care shall include the evaluation, diagnosis, prevention and  
13 treatment of diseases, disorders and conditions of the oral cavity  
14 and maxillofacial area.

15 (d) Any woman who establishes eligibility under this section  
16 shall continue to be treated as an eligible individual without  
17 regard to any change in income of the family of which she is member  
18 for two full years following the birth of her child.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require the Department of Health and Human Resources and Medicaid to provide dental coverage to an eligible mother for two years following the birth of her child.

This section is new; therefore, it has been completely underscored.