

HOUSE BILL No. 1329

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 16-46-7.

Synopsis: Sickle cell disease grant program. Adds specific requirements to the sickle cell program of the state department of health (department). Requires the department to establish sickle cell disease centers in various regions of Indiana.

Effective: July 1, 2015.

Porter

January 13, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on Public Health.



First Regular Session of the 119th General Assembly (2015)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2014 Regular Session and 2014 Second Regular Technical Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1329

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning health.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 16-46-7-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
2 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015]: Sec. 2. **(a)** The state
3 department shall establish a **sickle cell** program for the purpose of
4 providing funds for the prevention, care, and treatment of sickle cell
5 **anemia disease** and for educational programs concerning the disease.
6 **(b) The sickle cell program established under subsection (a)**
7 **must include the following services:**
8 **(1) Provide for free blood tests for sickle cell disease and**
9 **sickle cell trait to any person who requests a test.**
10 **(2) Provide for free counseling and advice to any person who**
11 **requests counseling for sickle cell disease and sickle cell trait,**
12 **its characteristics, symptoms, traits, effects, and treatment.**
13 **The counseling provided must consist of the following:**
14 **(A) Genetic counseling for a person who tests positive for**
15 **sickle cell trait.**



- 1 **(B) Psychosocial counseling for a person who tests positive**
 2 **for sickle cell disease, which may include social service**
 3 **counseling, psychological counseling, and psychiatric**
 4 **counseling.**
- 5 **(3) Provide assistance to any person with sickle cell disease**
 6 **who:**
- 7 **(A) requires continuing treatment with chronic blood**
 8 **transfusions to avoid strokes, extensive hospitalization, and**
 9 **other effects associated with the critical, chronic pain, and**
 10 **sickling condition;**
- 11 **(B) is unable to pay for the entire cost of the services on a**
 12 **continuing basis despite the existence of various types of**
 13 **assistance, including medical insurance coverage,**
 14 **Medicare, Medicaid, government assistance programs, and**
 15 **private charitable assistance programs; and**
- 16 **(C) is a resident of Indiana.**
- 17 **(4) Provide for the development of a sickle cell disease medical**
 18 **provider educational outreach program and the development**
 19 **and dissemination of medical educational materials about**
 20 **sickle cell disease and sickle cell trait to appropriate health**
 21 **care providers, including physicians, nurses, hospitals, and**
 22 **health clinics.**
- 23 **(5) Provide for the development of a sickle cell disease**
 24 **educational outreach program and the dissemination of**
 25 **educational materials about sickle cell disease and sickle cell**
 26 **trait to the general public and through various institutions,**
 27 **including businesses, schools, and universities.**
- 28 **(c) The services required under subsection (b) must be provided**
 29 **by:**
- 30 **(1) the state department; or**
 31 **(2) private service providers, local health departments, or**
 32 **community based organizations that have contracted with the**
 33 **state department.**
- 34 SECTION 2. IC 16-46-7-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 35 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015]: Sec. 8. The state department
 36 shall do the following:
- 37 (1) Develop application criteria and standards of eligibility for
 38 groups or organizations who apply for funds under this program.
 39 (2) Make available grants to groups and organizations who meet
 40 the eligibility standards set by the department. However, the
 41 highest priority for grants shall be accorded to established sickle
 42 cell anemia foundation chapters disease community based



1 **organizations throughout Indiana. Priority must be given to**
 2 **ensuring the establishment of sickle cell disease centers in**
 3 **underserved areas in which there is a higher population of**
 4 **sickle cell disease patients. At least one (1) sickle cell disease**
 5 **center must be established in the northwest, northeast, south,**
 6 **and southwest regions of Indiana.**

7 (3) Determine the maximum amount available for each grant.

8 (4) Determine policies for expiration and renewal of grants.

9 (5) Require that all grant funds be used for the purpose of
 10 prevention, care, and treatment of sickle cell **anemia disease** or
 11 for educational programs concerning the disease.

12 (6) Adopt necessary rules.

13 SECTION 3. IC 16-46-7-9 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
 14 AS A **NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY**
 15 **1, 2015]: Sec. 9. The state department may do the following:**

16 **(1) Develop standards for determining eligibility for care and**
 17 **treatment under the sickle cell disease program established**
 18 **under this chapter.**

19 **(2) Assist in the development and expansion of programs for**
 20 **the care and treatment of persons suffering from sickle cell**
 21 **disease, including the following:**

22 **(A) Self administration.**

23 **(B) Prevention.**

24 **(C) Home care.**

25 **(D) Other medical procedures and techniques designed to**
 26 **provide maximum control over sickling episodes typical of**
 27 **the condition.**

28 **(3) Extend financial assistance to persons suffering from**
 29 **sickle cell disease in obtaining chronic blood transfusions,**
 30 **hydroxyurea folic acid, and other effective agents to increase**
 31 **the effectiveness of the funds appropriated to carry out this**
 32 **chapter.**

33 **(4) Adopt rules necessary to carry out this chapter.**

