



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Office of Medicaid
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October 7, 2022

Chair, Michael J. Rodrigues
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State House, Room 212
Boston, MA 02133

Chair, Aaron Michlewitz
House Committee on Ways and Means
State House, Room 243
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chairs Rodrigues and Michlewitz:

Line item 4000-0601 in the Fiscal Year 2022 budget requires the Executive Office of Health and Human Services to report to the House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means on:

the implementation of the Medicare Saving program (MSP) expanded program eligibility for seniors under section 25A of said chapter 118E; provided further, that said report shall include, but not be limited to: (i) the number of members who are seniors whose household incomes, as determined by the executive office, exceed 130 per cent of the federal poverty level that are enrolled in Medicare Saving programs during each month of the fiscal year; (ii) total enrollment in the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) program, Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB) Program and Qualifying Individual (QI) Program; (iii) total annual spending on Medicare premiums and cost-sharing for such members; (iv) total annual transfers from the prescription advantage program in line item 9110-1455 and Health Safety Net Trust Fund to fund the Medicare Saving program expansion

This report covers the time period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

As of June 30, 2022, total enrollment (both previous and newly eligible members) in the QMB program was 15,576, total enrollment in the SLMB program was 8,940, and total enrollment in the QI program was 5,800.

Below is the estimated number of seniors and disabled individuals enrolled in the MSPs with income over 130% of the federal poverty level (FPL) during each month of the fiscal year. The total MassHealth spend for these members between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 was \$23.8 million.

Month	Estimated enrollment of members with income over 130% FPL
July	13,499
August	13,634
September	13,750
October	13,894
November	14,044
December	14,169
January	14,214
February	14,605
March	14,644
April	14,730
May	14,746
June	14,740

When the MSP eligibility changes took effect on January 1, 2020, some individuals became newly eligible for MassHealth coverage of Medicare Part A and B cost sharing, which also qualified them for automatic eligibility for the federal Part D low income subsidy (LIS), which reduces out of pocket costs for Medicare drug benefits. As a result of the coverage expansion, there has been a reduction in demand on the Health Safety Net (HSN) because assistance with Medicare cost sharing previously covered by the HSN is covered for the new MSP members by MassHealth and by the Part D LIS. For state fiscal year 2021, the transfer from the Prescription Advantage program in line item 9110-1455 to the General Fund was \$0, and the transfer from the Health Safety Net Trust Fund to the General Fund was \$4,650,000.

I hope you find this report useful and informative. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Camille Pearson at camille.pearson@mass.gov.

Sincerely,



Amanda Cassel Kraft

cc: Marylou Sudders