

1 AN ACT concerning health benefits.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Illinois Public Aid Code is amended by
5 adding Section 5-16.13 as follows:

6 (305 ILCS 5/16.13 new)

7 Sec. 5-16.13. Morbid obesity.

8 (a) The medical assistance program must provide benefits
9 for the expenses of the surgical treatment of morbid obesity
10 for the following individuals:

11 (1) individuals with a body-mass index equal to or
12 greater than 40 kilograms per meter squared;

13 (2) individuals with a body-mass index equal to or
14 greater than 35 kilograms per meter squared, with
15 comorbidities or coexisting medical conditions, such as
16 hypertension, cardiopulmonary conditions, sleep apnea, or
17 diabetes; and

18 (3) individuals who meet the guidelines for the
19 surgical treatment of morbid obesity as set forth by the
20 national institutes of health.

21 (b) The benefits provided under subsection (a) shall
22 include benefits for examinations and laboratory tests
23 performed in accordance with the guidelines of the national
24 institutes of health for the surgical treatment of morbid
25 obesity.

26 (c) The benefits provided under subsection (a) shall be
27 no less extensive than those provided for any other medically
28 necessary surgical procedure under the program and shall be
29 subject to similar terms and conditions.