

2019 -- H 5604

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

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A N A C T

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- HEALTH CARE FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED

Introduced By: Representatives Tanzi, Fogarty, Cortvriend, Carson, and Donovan

Date Introduced: February 27, 2019

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 40-8.5-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 40-8.5 entitled "Health  
2 Care for Elderly and Disabled Residents Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **40-8.5-1. Categorically needy medical assistance coverage.**

4 The department of human services is hereby authorized and directed to amend its Title  
5 XIX state plan to provide for categorically needy medical assistance coverage as permitted  
6 pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1396 et seq., as amended, to  
7 individuals who are sixty-five (65) years or older or are disabled, as determined under §  
8 1614(a)(3) of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1382c(a)(3), as amended, whose income does  
9 not exceed ~~one hundred percent (100%)~~ one hundred thirty-three percent (133%) of the federal  
10 poverty level (as revised annually) applicable to the individual's family size, and whose resources  
11 do not exceed four thousand dollars (\$4,000) per individual, or six thousand dollars (\$6,000) per  
12 couple. The department shall provide medical assistance coverage to such elderly or disabled  
13 persons in the same amount, duration and scope as provided to other categorically needy persons  
14 under the state's Title XIX state plan.

15 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

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1           This act would increase the income eligibility limit for medical assistance coverage for  
2 seniors and disabled individuals from one hundred percent (100%) to one hundred thirty-three  
3 percent (133%) of federal poverty level.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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