

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

A N A C T

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Introduced By: Senators Lynch Prata, Miller, Quezada, Metts, and Nesselbush

Date Introduced: February 15, 2017

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 40-8 of the General Laws entitled "Medical Assistance" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

40-8-3.2. Eligibility for Medicare savings programs.

(a) Beginning July 1, 2017, and annually thereafter, the secretary of the executive office of health and human services shall increase income disregards used to determine eligibility by the department of human services for the federal Qualified Medicare Beneficiary, the Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary and the Qualifying Individual Programs, administered in accordance with the provisions of 42 U.S.C. 1396d(p), by an amount that equalizes the income levels used to determine eligibility for said programs to income levels at or below one hundred eighty-five percent (185%) of the federal poverty level.

(b) The secretary shall not apply an asset test for eligibility under the Medicare savings program.

(c) The secretary shall submit any Medicaid state plan amendment necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

1 This act would require the secretary of the executive office of health and human services
2 to increase income disregards, to determine eligibility for certain Medicare cost-sharing
3 programs, by an amount that equalizes the income levels to one hundred eighty-five percent
4 (185%) of the federal poverty level.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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