



General Assembly

February Session, 2000

Committee Bill No. 5428

LCO No. 2551

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:
(HS)

An Act Expanding Eligibility For The ConnPACE Program.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17b-492 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) Eligibility for participation in the program shall be limited to any
4 resident (1) who is sixty-five years of age or older or who is disabled,
5 (2) whose annual income, if unmarried, is less than [thirteen thousand
6 eight] seventeen thousand five hundred dollars, or whose annual
7 income, if married, when combined with that of his spouse is less than
8 [sixteen thousand six] twenty thousand five hundred dollars, (3) who
9 is not insured under a policy which provides full or partial coverage
10 for prescription drugs once a deductible amount is met, and (4) on and
11 after September 15, 1991, who pays an annual twenty-five-dollar
12 registration fee to the Department of Social Services. Notwithstanding
13 the provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection, a resident may be
14 eligible to participate in the program provided such resident submits
15 evidence satisfactory to the department that such resident has paid an
16 amount for prescription drugs during the same calendar year in which
17 such resident has submitted an application for assistance under the

18 program that is equal to or greater than the amount by which the
19 annual income of the resident exceeds the income limits established
20 under this subsection. Such resident shall be eligible to participate in
21 the program through December thirty-first of the calendar year in
22 which such resident has submitted an application for assistance under
23 the program. In the event a resident is determined to be ineligible to
24 participate in the program due to annual income in excess of the
25 income limits established under this subsection, the department shall
26 provide written notification to such resident of (A) the amount by
27 which the annual income of the resident exceeds the income limits
28 established under this subsection, and (B) the resident's ability to
29 qualify for eligibility under the program provided such resident
30 submits evidence satisfactory to the department that such resident has
31 paid an amount for prescription drugs during the same calendar year
32 in which such resident has submitted an application for assistance
33 under the program that is equal to or greater than the amount by
34 which the annual income of the resident exceeds such income limits.
35 On January 1, 1998, and annually thereafter, the commissioner shall,
36 by the adoption of regulations in accordance with chapter 54, increase
37 the income limits established under this subsection over those of the
38 previous fiscal year to reflect the annual inflation adjustment in Social
39 Security income, if any. Each such adjustment shall be determined to
40 the nearest one hundred dollars.

41 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

Statement of Purpose:

To increase the annual income limits of elderly or disabled persons eligible to participate in the ConnPACE program thereby assisting such persons with the escalating cost of prescription drugs, and to allow persons to deduct prescription drug expenses from the annual income limits for purposes of determining ConnPACE eligibility.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

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