



General Assembly

February Session, 2000

**Raised Bill No. 5858**

LCO No. 2406

Referred to Committee on Insurance and Real Estate

Introduced by:  
(INS)

***An Act Extending Prescription Drug Coverage To Low-Income Uninsured Individuals.***

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2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof: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 hundred] seventeen thousand five hundred dollars, or whose  
7 annual income, if married, when combined with that of [his] a spouse  
8 is less than [sixteen thousand six hundred] twenty-two thousand  
9 dollars, [(3)] (2) who is not insured under a policy which provides full  
10 or partial coverage for prescription drugs once a deductible amount is  
11 met, and [(4)] (3) on and after September 15, 1991, who pays an annual  
12 twenty-five-dollar registration fee to the Department of Social Services.  
13 On January 1, 1998, and annually thereafter, the commissioner shall,  
14 by the adoption of regulations in accordance with chapter 54, increase  
15 the income limits established under this subsection over those of the  
16 previous fiscal year to reflect the annual inflation adjustment in Social

17 Security income, if any. Each such adjustment shall be determined to  
18 the nearest one hundred dollars.

19 Sec. 2. Subsection (e) of section 26 of public act 99-2 of the June  
20 special session is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
21 thereof:

22 (e) Grants shall be made by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
23 Management in consultation with the speaker of the House of  
24 Representatives, the president pro tempore of the Senate, the majority  
25 leader of the House of Representatives, the majority leader of the  
26 Senate, the minority leader of the House of Representatives, the  
27 minority leader of the Senate, and the cochairpersons and ranking  
28 members of the joint standing committees of the General Assembly  
29 having cognizance of matters relating to public health and  
30 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, or their designees.  
31 Such grants shall be used to (1) reduce tobacco abuse through  
32 prevention, education, cessation, treatment, enforcement and health  
33 needs programs, and (2) provide funding for expanded coverage  
34 under the ConnPACE program pursuant to section 17b-492, as  
35 amended by this act.

36 Sec. 3. Section 27 of public act 99-2 of the June special session is  
37 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

38 There is created a Tobacco and Health Trust Fund which shall be a  
39 separate nonlapsing fund. The trust fund may accept transfers from  
40 the Tobacco Settlement Fund and may apply for and accept gifts,  
41 grants or donations from public or private sources to enable the trust  
42 fund to carry out its objectives.

43 Sec. 4. The sum of \_\_\_\_ dollars is appropriated to the Department of  
44 Social Services, from the Tobacco and Health Fund, for the fiscal year  
45 ending June 30, 2001, for the purpose of funding prescription coverage  
46 pursuant to section 1 of this act.

47 Sec. 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

**Statement of Purpose:**

To expand ConnPACE coverage to uninsured low-income residents of this state.

*[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.]*