



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5858

February Session, 2000

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2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof: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20 special session is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu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. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

INS Committee Vote: Yea 17 Nay 0 JF C/R APP
APP Committee Vote: Yea 47 Nay 0 JFS