



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

**Committee Bill No. 120**

LCO No. 4224

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:  
(HS)

**AN ACT CONCERNING INCOME ELIGIBILITY FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17b-261 of the general statutes, as  
2 amended by section 10 of public act 03-2, is repealed and the following  
3 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2003*):

4 (a) Medical assistance shall be provided for any otherwise eligible  
5 person whose income, including any available support from legally  
6 liable relatives and the income of the person's spouse or dependent  
7 child, is not more than one hundred forty-three per cent, pending  
8 approval of a federal waiver applied for pursuant to subsection (d) of  
9 this section, of the benefit amount paid to a person with no income  
10 under the temporary family assistance program in the appropriate  
11 region of residence and if such person is an institutionalized  
12 individual as defined in Section 1917(c) of the Social Security Act, 42  
13 USC 1396p(c), and has not made an assignment or transfer or other  
14 disposition of property for less than fair market value for the purpose  
15 of establishing eligibility for benefits or assistance under this section.  
16 Any such disposition shall be treated in accordance with Section

17 1917(c) of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1396p(c). Any disposition of  
18 property made on behalf of an applicant or recipient or the spouse of  
19 an applicant or recipient by a guardian, conservator, person  
20 authorized to make such disposition pursuant to a power of attorney  
21 or other person so authorized by law shall be attributed to such  
22 applicant, recipient or spouse. A disposition of property ordered by a  
23 court shall be evaluated in accordance with the standards applied to  
24 any other such disposition for the purpose of determining eligibility.  
25 The commissioner shall establish the standards for eligibility for  
26 medical assistance at one hundred forty-three per cent of the benefit  
27 amount paid to a family unit of equal size with no income under the  
28 temporary family assistance program in the appropriate region of  
29 residence, pending federal approval, except that the medical assistance  
30 program shall provide coverage to persons under the age of nineteen  
31 up to one hundred eighty-five per cent of the federal poverty level  
32 without an asset limit. Said medical assistance program shall also  
33 provide coverage to persons under the age of nineteen and their  
34 parents and needy caretaker relatives who qualify for coverage under  
35 Section 1931 of the Social Security Act with family income up to one  
36 hundred per cent of the federal poverty level without an asset limit,  
37 upon the request of such a person or upon a redetermination of  
38 eligibility. Such levels shall be based on the regional differences in  
39 such benefit amount, if applicable, unless such levels based on regional  
40 differences are not in conformance with federal law. On July 1, 2003,  
41 and annually thereafter, the commissioner shall increase the unearned  
42 income disregard for recipients of medical assistance by the percentage  
43 increase, if any, in the most recent calendar year average in the  
44 consumer price index for urban consumers over the average for the  
45 previous calendar year. Any income in excess of the applicable  
46 amounts shall be applied as may be required by said federal law, and  
47 assistance shall be granted for the balance of the cost of authorized  
48 medical assistance. All contracts entered into on and after July 1, 1997,  
49 pursuant to this section shall include provisions for collaboration of  
50 managed care organizations with the Healthy Families Connecticut

51 Program established pursuant to section 17a-56. The Commissioner of  
52 Social Services shall provide applicants for assistance under this  
53 section, at the time of application, with a written statement advising  
54 them of the effect of an assignment or transfer or other disposition of  
55 property on eligibility for benefits or assistance.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2003</i>

**HS**      *Joint Favorable*