



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

Committee Bill No. 5290

LCO No. 3109

03109HB05290HS_

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:
(HS)

**AN ACT CONCERNING AN INCREASE TO THE UNEARNED INCOME
DISREGARD FOR STATE SUPPLEMENT RECIPIENTS.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 17b-106 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2005*):

3 [(a) On July 1, 1985, the Commissioner of Social Services shall
4 increase the adult payment standards for the state supplement to the
5 federal Supplemental Security Income Program by four and
6 three-tenths per cent over the standards for the fiscal year ending June
7 30, 1985, provided the commissioner shall apply the appropriate
8 disregards. Notwithstanding the provisions of any regulation to the
9 contrary, effective July 1, 1994, the commissioner shall reduce the
10 appropriate unearned income disregard for recipients of the state
11 supplement to the federal Supplemental Security Income Program by
12 seven per cent, provided if sufficient funds are available within
13 accounts in the Department of Social Services and are transferred to
14 the old age assistance account, the aid to the blind account and the aid
15 to the disabled account, the commissioner shall increase the unearned
16 income disregard for recipients of the state supplement to the federal

17 Supplemental Security Income Program to a level not to exceed that in
18 effect on June 30, 1994.]

19 (a) On July 1, 2005, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of
20 Social Services shall increase the unearned income disregard for
21 recipients of the state supplement to the federal Supplemental Security
22 Income program by the percentage increase, if any, in the most recent
23 calendar year average in the consumer price index for urban
24 consumers over the average for the previous calendar year. On July 1,
25 1989, and annually thereafter, the [Commissioner of Social Services]
26 commissioner shall increase the adult payment standards over those of
27 the previous fiscal year for the state supplement to the federal
28 Supplemental Security Income Program by the percentage increase, if
29 any, in the most recent calendar year average in the consumer price
30 index for urban consumers over the average for the previous calendar
31 year, provided the annual increase, if any, shall not exceed five per
32 cent, except that the adult payment standards for the fiscal years
33 ending June 30, 1993, June 30, 1994, June 30, 1995, June 30, 1996, June
34 30, 1997, June 30, 1998, June 30, 1999, June 30, 2000, June 30, 2001, June
35 30, 2002, June 30, 2003, June 30, 2004, and June 30, 2005, shall not be
36 increased. Effective October 1, 1991, the coverage of excess utility costs
37 for recipients of the state supplement to the federal Supplemental
38 Security Income Program is eliminated. Notwithstanding the
39 provisions of this section, the [Commissioner of Social Services]
40 commissioner may increase the personal needs allowance component
41 of the adult payment standard as necessary to meet federal
42 maintenance of effort requirements.

43 (b) Effective July 1, 1998, the [Commissioner of Social Services]
44 commissioner shall provide a state supplement payment for recipients
45 of Medicaid and the federal Supplemental Security Income Program
46 who reside in long-term care facilities sufficient to increase their
47 personal needs allowance to fifty dollars per month. Such state
48 supplement payment shall be made to the long-term care facility to be
49 deposited into the personal fund account of each such recipient.

50 Effective July 1, 1999, and annually thereafter, the commissioner shall
51 increase such allowance to reflect the annual inflation adjustment in
52 Social Security income, if any. For the purposes of this subsection,
53 "long-term care facility" means a licensed chronic and convalescent
54 nursing home, a chronic disease hospital, a rest home with nursing
55 supervision, an intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded or a
56 state humane institution.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2005	17b-106

Statement of Purpose:

To allow recipients of the state supplement to the federal Supplemental Security Income Program to receive federal cost-of-living increases without incurring a corresponding decrease in the state supplement benefits.

[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.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. TRUGLIA, 145th Dist.; SEN. HARRIS, 5th Dist.
SEN. RORABACK, 30th Dist.; SEN. COOK, 18th Dist.

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