



General Assembly

January Session, 2015

Raised Bill No. 5806

LCO No. 2862



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:
(HS)

***AN ACT INCREASING THE MINIMUM AMOUNT OF ASSETS THAT
MAY BE RETAINED BY THE SPOUSE OF AN INSTITUTIONALIZED
PERSON.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) For purposes of this
2 section:

3 (1) "Institutionalized spouse" has the same meaning as provided in
4 42 USC 1396r-5(h)(1).

5 (2) "Community spouse" has the same meaning as provided in 42
6 USC 1396r-5(h)(2).

7 (3) "Minimum community spouse protected amount" means the
8 minimum amount of assets a community spouse of an institutionalized
9 spouse may keep pursuant to 42 USC 1396r-5(f)(2).

10 (b) The Commissioner of Social Services shall amend the Medicaid
11 state plan in accordance with federal law to set the minimum
12 community spouse protected amount at fifty thousand dollars.

13 (c) Not later than July 1, 2016, the commissioner shall report on the
14 fiscal impact of the minimum community spouse protected amount, in
15 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
16 to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having
17 cognizance of matters relating to human services and appropriations
18 and the budgets of state agencies. Such report shall include, but not be
19 limited to: (1) The number of community spouses who were able to
20 keep additional assets as a result of the increase in the minimum
21 community spouse protected amount pursuant to subsection (b) of this
22 section; and (2) the cost to the state of increasing said amount.

23 (d) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with
24 the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the
25 provisions of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To assist spouses of institutionalized persons to live independently longer at home.