



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 279

February Session, 2016

* SB00279HS 031616 *

**AN ACT WAIVING ASSET LIMITS FOR WORKING PERSONS WITH
DISABILITIES TO RECEIVE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE.**

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 17b-597 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2016*):

4 (b) The Commissioner of Social Services shall amend the Medicaid
5 state plan to allow persons specified in subsection (a) of this section to
6 qualify for medical assistance. The amendment shall include the
7 following requirements: (1) That the person be engaged in a
8 substantial and reasonable work effort as determined by the
9 commissioner and as permitted by federal law and have an annual
10 adjusted gross income, as defined in Section 62 of the Internal Revenue
11 Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code
12 of the United States, as amended from time to time, of no more than
13 seventy-five thousand dollars per year; (2) a disregard of all countable
14 income up to two hundred per cent of the federal poverty level; (3) [for
15 an unmarried person, an asset limit of ten thousand dollars, and for a
16 married couple, an asset limit of fifteen thousand dollars; (4)] a
17 disregard of any retirement and medical savings accounts established
18 pursuant to 26 USC 220 and held by either the person or the person's
19 spouse; [(5)] (4) a disregard of any moneys in accounts designated by
20 the person or the person's spouse for the purpose of purchasing goods

21 or services that will increase the employability of such person, subject
 22 to approval by the commissioner; ~~[(6)]~~ (5) a disregard of spousal
 23 income solely for purposes of determination of eligibility; and ~~[(7)]~~ (6)
 24 a contribution of any countable income of the person or the person's
 25 spouse which exceeds two hundred per cent of the federal poverty
 26 level, as adjusted for the appropriate family size, equal to ten per cent
 27 of the excess minus any premiums paid from income for health
 28 insurance by any family member, but which does not exceed the
 29 maximum contribution allowable under Section 201(a)(3) of Public
 30 Law 106-170, as amended from time to time.

31 Sec. 2. Section 17b-598 of the general statutes is repealed and the
 32 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

33 The Commissioner of Social Services shall seek a waiver from
 34 federal law to permit a person participating in the program established
 35 under section 17b-597, as amended by this act, to remain eligible for
 36 medical assistance under the Medicaid program in the event such
 37 person is unable to maintain a work effort for involuntary reasons. No
 38 such person shall be required to make another application to
 39 determine continued eligibility for medical assistance under the
 40 Medicaid program. In order to remain eligible for such medical
 41 assistance, such person shall (1) request that such assistance be
 42 continued for a period not to exceed twelve months from the date of
 43 the involuntary loss of employment, and (2) maintain a connection to
 44 the workforce as determined by the commissioner during such period.
 45 At the end of the twelve-month period, such person shall meet the
 46 eligibility criteria for the Medicaid program. ~~[, except that the~~
 47 ~~commissioner shall disregard any assets specified in subdivisions (4)~~
 48 ~~and (5) of subsection (b) of section 17b-597.]~~

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	17b-597(b)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	17b-598

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 2, ", as amended by this act," was inserted after "17b-597 for accuracy.

HS *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*