General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 283

February Session, 2022

LCO No. **2439**

02439   HS

Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:
(HS)

AN ACT ELIMINATING INCOME AND ASSET LIMITS FOR THE MED-CONNECT PROGRAM FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.

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

1   Section 1. Section 17b-597 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2   following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):

3   (a) The Department of Social Services shall establish and implement
4   a working persons with disabilities program to provide medical
5   assistance as authorized under 42 USC 1396a(a)(10)(A)(ii), as amended
6   from time to time, to persons who are disabled and regularly employed.

7   (b) The Commissioner of Social Services shall amend the Medicaid
8   state plan to allow persons specified in subsection (a) of this section to
9   qualify for medical assistance. The amendment shall [include the
10   following requirements: (1) That the person be engaged in a substantial
11   and reasonable work effort as determined by the commissioner and as
12   permitted by federal law and have an annual adjusted gross income, as
13   defined in Section 62 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any
14   subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States,
15   as amended from time to time, of no more than seventy-five thousand

16 dollars per year; (2) a disregard of all countable income up to two
17 hundred per cent of the federal poverty level; (3) for an unmarried
18 person, an asset limit of ten thousand dollars, and for a married couple,
19 an asset limit of fifteen thousand dollars; (4) a disregard of any
20 retirement and medical savings accounts established pursuant to 26
21 USC 220 and held by either the person or the person's spouse; (5) a
22 disregard of any moneys in accounts designated by the person or the
23 person's spouse for the purpose of purchasing goods or services that
24 will increase the employability of such person, subject to approval by
25 the commissioner; (6) a disregard of spousal income solely for purposes
26 of determination of eligibility; and (7)**]** require (1) that the person be
27 engaged in a substantial and reasonable work effort as determined by
28 the commissioner and as permitted by federal law; and (2) a
29 contribution of any countable income of the person or the person's
30 spouse which exceeds two hundred per cent of the federal poverty level,
31 as adjusted for the appropriate family size, equal to ten per cent of the
32 excess minus any premiums paid from income for health insurance by
33 any family member, but which does not exceed the maximum
34 contribution allowable under Section 201(a)(3) of Public Law 106-170, as
35 amended from time to time.

36   (c) The Commissioner of Social Services shall implement the policies
37 and procedures necessary to carry out the provisions of this section
38 while in the process of adopting such policies and procedures in
39 regulation form, provided notice of intent to adopt the regulations is
40 **[**published in the Connecticut Law Journal within twenty days after
41 implementation**]** posted on the eRegulations System in accordance with
42 section 17b-10. The commissioner shall define "countable income" for
43 purposes of subsection (b) of this section which shall take into account
44 impairment-related work expenses as defined in the Social Security Act.
45 Such policies and procedures shall be valid until the time final
46 regulations are effective.

> This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following
> sections:

| Section 1 | *July 1, 2022* | 17b-597 |

Statement of Purpose:

To eliminate income and asset limits for working persons with disabilities to qualify for Medicaid.

[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.]