

Senate File 2315 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2315

BY GUTH

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to eligibility for the Medicaid for employed
2 persons with disabilities program.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 249A.3, subsection 2, paragraph a,
2 subparagraph (1), Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

3 (1) (a) As allowed under 42 U.S.C.
4 §1396a(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XIII), individuals with disabilities, who
5 are less than sixty-five years of age, who are members of
6 families whose income is less than ~~two hundred fifty~~ three
7 hundred percent of the most recently revised official poverty
8 guidelines published by the United States department of health
9 and human services for the family, who have earned income and who
10 are eligible for mandatory medical assistance or optional medical
11 assistance under this section if earnings are disregarded. As
12 allowed by 42 U.S.C. §1396a(r)(2), unearned income shall also
13 be disregarded in determining whether an individual is eligible
14 for assistance under this subparagraph. For the purposes of
15 determining the amount of an individual's resources under this
16 subparagraph and as allowed by 42 U.S.C. §1396a(r)(2), a maximum
17 of ten thousand dollars of available resources for an individual
18 and twenty-one thousand dollars of available resources for a
19 couple shall be disregarded, and any additional resources held in
20 a retirement account, in a pension account, in a medical savings
21 account, or in any other account approved under rules adopted by
22 the department shall also be disregarded.

23 (b) Individuals eligible for assistance under this
24 subparagraph, whose individual income exceeds one hundred fifty
25 percent of the official poverty guidelines published by the
26 United States department of health and human services for an
27 individual, shall pay a premium. The amount of the premium
28 shall be based on a sliding fee schedule adopted by rule
29 of the department and shall be based on a percentage of
30 the individual's income. ~~The maximum premium payable by an~~
31 ~~individual whose income exceeds one hundred fifty percent of the~~
32 ~~official poverty guidelines shall be commensurate with the cost~~
33 ~~of state employees' group health insurance in this state. The~~
34 ~~payment to and acceptance by an automated case management system~~
35 ~~or the department of the premium required under this subparagraph~~

1 ~~shall not automatically confer initial or continuing program~~
2 ~~eligibility on an individual.~~ The department shall maintain
3 a page on the department's internet site where individuals can
4 electronically pay any premium owed by an individual to the
5 department. A premium paid to and accepted by the department's
6 premium payment process that is subsequently determined to be
7 untimely or to have been paid on behalf of an individual
8 ineligible for the program shall be refunded to the remitter
9 in accordance with rules adopted by the department. Any unpaid
10 premium shall be a debt owed to the department.

11 EXPLANATION

12 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
13 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

14 This bill relates to eligibility for the Medicaid for employed
15 persons with disabilities program (MEPD).

16 Code section 249A.3 sets forth program eligibility criteria
17 for MEPD pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §1396a. The bill amends current
18 eligibility provisions requiring the department to cap premiums
19 for individuals whose income falls below 250 percent of the
20 federal poverty level (FPL), and that any acceptance by the
21 department of the payment of a premium does not automatically
22 confer initial or continuing MEPD eligibility on an individual.
23 Code section 249A.3 also requires HHS to not consider certain
24 assets when determining asset eligibility under MEPD.

25 The bill requires that HHS extend MEPD eligibility to those
26 with household incomes up to 300 percent of the FPL. Moneys in
27 a pension fund are not to be considered by HHS for purposes
28 of determining asset eligibility under MEPD. The bill provides
29 that HHS must allow for the electronic payment of MEPD premiums
30 through a page maintained on the department's internet site.