

2021 -- S 0481

LC000847

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

A N A C T

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Introduced By: Senators Cano, Lawson, DiPalma, Miller, Kallman, Murray, and DiMario

Date Introduced: March 04, 2021

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 40-8 of the General Laws entitled "Medical Assistance" is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **40-8-3.2. Eligibility for Medicare savings programs.**

4 (a) Beginning July 1, 2021, and annually thereafter, the secretary of the executive office of
5 health and human services shall increase income disregards used to determine eligibility by the
6 department of human services for the federal Qualified Medicare Beneficiary, the Specified Low-
7 Income Medicare Beneficiary and the Qualifying Individual Programs, administered in accordance
8 with the provisions of 42 U.S.C. 1396d(p), by an amount that equalizes the income levels used to
9 determine eligibility for said programs to income levels at or below one hundred eighty-five percent
10 (185%) of the federal poverty level.

11 (b) The secretary shall not apply an asset test for eligibility under the Medicare savings
12 program.

13 (c) The secretary shall submit any Medicaid state plan amendment necessary to implement
14 the provisions of this section.

15 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

1 This act would require the secretary of the executive office of health and human services
2 to increase income disregards, to determine eligibility for certain Medicare cost-sharing programs,
3 by an amount that equalizes the income levels to one hundred eighty-five percent (185%) of the
4 federal poverty level.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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