

HB 1068 -- Medical Assistance for Employed Persons with Disabilities

Sponsor: Portwood

This bill requires the Department of Social Services to determine the eligibility of an employed disabled person requesting medical assistance whose family income is less than 250% of the federal poverty level. The bill:

- (1) Requires an applicant to work at least 40 hours per month, have a gross annual income of less than \$18,000, and pay a \$65 application fee;
- (2) Specifies that an individual's personal assets cannot exceed \$1,000, while a couple's assets cannot exceed \$2,000;
- (3) Specifies that an independent living development account with a value less than \$10,000 per year, a medical expense account with a value less than \$5,000 per year, and a combined spousal income of up to \$32,500 per year will not be considered assets for determining eligibility;
- (4) Specifies that an individual whose income is greater than 80% of the federal poverty level will have to pay a premium between \$100 and \$400 based on his or her previous month's income;
- (5) Specifies that any person's income exceeding the limit for permanent and total disability benefits in Section 208.151, RSMo, will pay a premium equal to the amount of a person's spend down amount;
- (6) Specifies that nonpayment of a premium will result in the denial or termination of medical assistance;
- (7) Requires the Family Support Division to conduct an annual income and eligibility review of every recipient at least once a year, no later than 12 months after the recipient's last eligibility determination. Persons renewing their applications are to provide documentation of eligibility each year or be denied participation in the program for that year;
- (8) Prohibits an individual who is eligible under this section but is also eligible for the Missouri Medicaid Program and the federal Medicare Program from being eligible for continued prescription drug or medication assistance; and
- (9) Allows an individual who has been enrolled for four consecutive months and lost his or her job due to a medical

condition or some other reason not attributable to the enrollee to retain eligibility in this program for an additional three months.

The bill contains an emergency clause.