

House _____ Amendment NO. _____

Offered By

1 AMEND House Committee Substitute for Senate Substitute for Senate Bill No. 644, Page 14,
2 Section 208.175, Line 70, by inserting after all of said line the following:

3
4 "209.030. 1. Every adult blind person, eighteen years of age or over, of good moral
5 character who shall have been a resident of the state of Missouri for one year or more next preceding
6 the time of making application for the pension herein provided and every adult blind person
7 eighteen years of age or over who may have lost his or her sight while a bona fide resident of this
8 state and who has been a continuous resident thereof since such loss of sight, shall be entitled to
9 receive, when enrolled under the provisions of sections 209.010 to 209.160, an annual pension as
10 provided for herein, payable in equal monthly installments, provided, that no such person shall be
11 entitled to or be paid a blind pension who:

12 (1) Owns property or has an interest in property to the value of thirty thousand dollars or
13 more, or if married and actually living with husband or wife, if the value of his or her interest in
14 property, together with that of such husband or wife, exceeds said amount; provided that, the first
15 one hundred thousand dollars in an individual's ABLE account under sections 209.600 to 209.645
16 shall be excluded from such asset limit; provided, further, that in determining the total value of
17 property owned, the real estate occupied by the blind person or spouse as the home, shall be
18 excluded;

19 (2) Obtains, maintains, or renews a valid driver's license in this or any other state or
20 territory, unless such license has been relinquished to the department of revenue and the person
21 provides satisfactory proof of such relinquishment to the department of social services. The
22 department of social services shall notify eligible blind persons with valid driver's licenses that they
23 shall surrender such licenses within sixty days of approval for a blind pension. Upon receipt of a
24 relinquished license under this subdivision, the department of revenue shall, if requested by the
25 person, issue a nondriver's license card compliant with the provisions of chapter 302 at no charge to
26 the person. The department of social services and the department of revenue shall jointly establish
27 procedures and shall share any information necessary to implement this subdivision;

28 (3) Operates a motor vehicle with or without a valid driver's license;

29 (4) Has a sighted spouse resident in this state who upon the investigation of the family
30 support division may be found to be able to provide for the reasonable support of such applicant if
31 the sighted spouse's annual income is equal to or greater than five hundred percent of the federal
32 poverty level for each state fiscal year;

33 (5) Publicly solicits alms in any manner or through any artifice in any part of this state;

34 (6) Is maintained in a private or endowed institution or is an inmate of a public institution,
35 except as a patient in a public medical institution; provided[;] that benefits shall not be paid to a
36 blind person under sixty-five years of age, who is a patient in an institution for mental diseases or

Action Taken _____ Date _____

1 tuberculosis. In order to comply with federal laws and regulations and state plans in making
2 payments to or on behalf of mentally ill individuals sixty-five years of age, or over, who are patients
3 in a state mental institution, the family support division shall require agreements or other
4 arrangements with the institution to provide a framework for cooperation and to assure that state
5 plan requirements and federal laws and regulations relating to such payment will be observed. In
6 the event the federal laws or regulations will not permit approval of the state plan for benefit
7 payments to or on behalf of an individual who is sixty-five years of age, or over, and is a patient in a
8 state institution for mental diseases, this portion of this subdivision shall be inoperative until
9 approval of a state plan is obtained;

10 (7) Is otherwise not blind and not eligible for a blind pension under this chapter; or

11 (8) Pleads guilty or has been found to have violated section 209.140.

12 2. Any applicant for or any recipient of a blind pension who does not submit, without good
13 cause or as otherwise specified by the department of social services, to a vision test as required
14 under section 209.040 within thirty days of a request by the department shall not be eligible for a
15 blind pension and the department shall terminate payment after notice and an opportunity for a
16 hearing.

17 3. The applicant for or recipient of a blind pension shall inform the department of any
18 change of address or other contact information and any other change of circumstances that may
19 impact the applicant or recipient's eligibility for a blind pension within ten days of the change. Any
20 notice served on the applicant or recipient shall be sent by [~~certified~~] mail delivered by the United
21 States Postal Service at the applicant's or recipient's address of record and shall be deemed service
22 for all purposes under sections 209.010 to 209.160."; and

23
24 Further amend said bill by amending the title, enacting clause, and intersectional references
25 accordingly.