

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 782

S.P. 340

In Senate, March 4, 2025

An Act to Amend MaineCare Financial Eligibility Requirements

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on February 26, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator TEPLER of Sagadahoc.
Cosponsored by Senator: TIPPING of Penobscot, Representatives: ABDI of Lewiston,
MACIAS of Topsham, RANA of Bangor, SATO of Gorham.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-G, sub-§1, ¶C**, as repealed and replaced by PL 2005, c.
3 3, Pt. M, §1 and affected by §2, is amended to read:

4 C. A qualified elderly or disabled person when the person's family income is equal to
5 or below ~~100%~~ 138% of the nonfarm income official poverty line;

6 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §3174-G, sub-§1, ¶E**, as amended by PL 2023, c. 597, §7, is
7 further amended to read:

8 E. On or before September 30, 2012, the parent or caretaker relative of a child
9 described in paragraph B when the child's family income is equal to or below 200% of
10 the nonfarm income official poverty line, subject to adjustment by the commissioner
11 under this paragraph and, beginning October 1, 2012, the parent or caretaker relative
12 of a child described in paragraph B when the child's family income is equal to or below
13 ~~133%~~ 138% of the nonfarm income official poverty line, subject to adjustment by the
14 commissioner under this paragraph. Medicaid services provided under this paragraph
15 must be provided within the limits of the program budget. Funds appropriated for
16 services under this paragraph must include an annual inflationary adjustment
17 equivalent to the rate of inflation in the Medicaid program. On a quarterly basis, the
18 commissioner shall determine the fiscal status of program expenditures under this
19 paragraph. If the commissioner determines that expenditures will exceed the funds
20 available to provide Medicaid coverage pursuant to this paragraph, the commissioner
21 must adjust the income eligibility limit for new applicants to the extent necessary to
22 operate the program within the program budget. If, after an adjustment has occurred
23 pursuant to this paragraph, expenditures fall below the program budget, the
24 commissioner must raise the income eligibility limit to the extent necessary to provide
25 services to as many eligible persons as possible within the fiscal constraints of the
26 program budget, as long as on or before September 30, 2012 the income limit does not
27 exceed 200% of the nonfarm income official poverty line and, beginning October 1,
28 2012, the income limit does not exceed ~~133%~~ 138% of the nonfarm income official
29 poverty line;

30 **Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §3174-G, sub-§1, ¶E**, as amended by PL 2023, c. 597, §8, is
31 further amended to read:

32 E. On or before September 30, 2012, the parent or caretaker relative of a child
33 described in paragraph B when the child's family income is equal to or below 200% of
34 the nonfarm income official poverty line, subject to adjustment by the commissioner
35 under this paragraph and, beginning October 1, 2012, the parent or caretaker relative
36 of a child described in paragraph B when the child's family income is equal to or below
37 ~~100%~~ 138% of the nonfarm income official poverty line. Medicaid services provided
38 under this paragraph must be provided within the limits of the program budget. Funds
39 appropriated for services under this paragraph must include an annual inflationary
40 adjustment equivalent to the rate of inflation in the Medicaid program. On a quarterly
41 basis, the commissioner shall determine the fiscal status of program expenditures under
42 this paragraph. If the commissioner determines that expenditures will exceed the funds
43 available to provide Medicaid coverage pursuant to this paragraph, the commissioner
44 must adjust the income eligibility limit for new applicants to the extent necessary to
45 operate the program within the program budget. If, after an adjustment has occurred

1 pursuant to this paragraph, expenditures fall below the program budget, the
2 commissioner must raise the income eligibility limit to the extent necessary to provide
3 services to as many eligible persons as possible within the fiscal constraints of the
4 program budget, as long as on or before September 30, 2012 the income limit does not
5 exceed 200% of the nonfarm income official poverty line;

6 **Sec. 4. 22 MRSA §3174-G, sub-§1, ¶G**, as amended by PL 2021, c. 519, §5, is
7 further amended by amending subparagraph (2) to read:

8 (2) A ~~child~~ person under ~~21~~ 23 years of age;

9 **Sec. 5. 22 MRSA §3174-AA, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 2001, c. 450, Pt. A, §4, is
10 amended to read:

11 **2. Savings.** An amount up to ~~\$8,000~~ \$15,000 for an individual and up to ~~\$12,000~~
12 \$25,000 for a household of more than one person.

13 **Sec. 6. Rulemaking.** The Department of Health and Human Services shall amend
14 its rules establishing the maximum asset limits for MaineCare eligibility for individuals
15 who are working with a disabling condition to \$15,000 for an individual and \$25,000 for a
16 household of more than one person. Amendments to rules adopted pursuant to this section
17 are routine technical rules pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375,
18 subchapter 2-A.

19 SUMMARY

20 This bill makes the following changes to financial eligibility for the MaineCare
21 program.

22 1. It changes the family income limit for qualified elderly or disabled persons from
23 100% to 138% of the nonfarm income official poverty line.

24 2. It changes the family income limit for parents and caretaker relatives from 100% to
25 138% of the nonfarm income official poverty line.

26 3. It raises the age of eligibility for a person otherwise eligible who is a noncitizen
27 legally admitted to the United States to the extent that coverage is allowable by federal law
28 from under 21 years of age to under 23 years of age.

29 4. It raises the maximum asset limits for members subject to an asset test from \$8,000
30 for an individual to \$15,000 and from \$12,000 for a household of more than one person to
31 \$25,000.

32 5. It directs the Department of Health and Human Services to establish by rule that the
33 maximum asset limits for those who are working with a disabling condition is \$15,000 for
34 an individual and \$25,000 for a household of more than one person.