

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



# 120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

---

Legislative Document

No. 556

H.P. 435

House of Representatives, February 6, 2001

---

**An Act to Increase Eligibility for Health Care Benefits.**

---

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative MARRACHE of Waterville.

2  
3 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

4 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-T, sub-§2, ¶A,** as amended by PL 1999, c.  
5 401, Pt. QQ, §1 and affected by §5, is further amended to read:

6 A. The maximum eligibility level, subject to adjustment by  
7 the commissioner under paragraph B, is 200% 300% of the  
8 nonfarm income official poverty line.

9  
10 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §3174-T, sub-§5, ¶A,** as amended by PL 1999, c.  
11 731, Pt. PP, §2, is further amended to read:

12 A. Premiums must be paid at the beginning of each month for  
13 coverage for that month according to the following scale:

14  
15 (1) Families with incomes between 150% and 160% of the  
16 nonfarm income official poverty line pay premiums of 5%  
17 of the benefit cost per child, but not more than 5% of  
18 the cost for 2 children;

19  
20 (2) Families with incomes between 160% and 170% of the  
21 nonfarm income official poverty line pay premiums of  
22 10% of the benefit cost per child, but not more than  
23 10% of the cost for 2 children;

24  
25 (3) Families with incomes between 170% and 185% of the  
26 nonfarm income official poverty line must pay premiums  
27 of 15% of the benefit cost per child, but not more than  
28 15% of the cost for 2 children; and

29  
30 (4) Families with incomes between above 185% ~~and-200%~~  
31 of the nonfarm income official poverty line must pay  
32 premiums of 20% of the benefit cost per child, but not  
33 more than 20% of the cost for 2 children.  
34

35 **Sec. 3. Medicaid buy-in program for persons with disabilities.** The  
36 Department of Human Services shall amend its rules regarding  
37 eligibility for the Medicaid buy-in program for persons with  
38 disabilities. The rules must designate as a categorically needy  
39 eligibility group individuals whose family income is less than  
40 350% of the federal nonfarm income official poverty line and who,  
41 except for their earned income, would be considered to be  
42 receiving supplemental security income benefits. The rules must  
43 maintain the cap on earned and unearned income while removing  
44 separate caps on those types of income. Rules adopted pursuant  
45 to this section are routine technical rules as defined by the  
46 Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A.  
47  
48

## SUMMARY

2

4       This bill raises the eligibility level for the Cub Care  
6       program from 200% to 300% of the federal nonfarm income official  
8       poverty line and sets premium levels. The bill directs the  
10       Department of Human Services to amend its rules regarding  
12       eligibility for the Medicaid buy-in program for persons with  
14       disabilities. The rules must designate as a categorically needy  
      eligibility group individuals whose family income is less than  
      350% of the federal nonfarm income official poverty line and who,  
      except for their earned income, would be considered to be  
      receiving supplemental security income benefits. The rules must  
      eliminate separate caps on earned and unearned income. The rules  
      are designated as routine technical rules.