

HB 39 -- 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 gross income is less than 250% of the federal poverty level. The bill:

- (1) Requires that an individual meet the definition of a disabled person under the federal Supplemental Security Income Program or of an employed individual with a medically improved disability under the federal Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999;
- (2) Requires an individual who has a net income that does not exceed the limit for permanent and totally disabled individuals to receive non-spenddown Missouri Medicaid benefits;
- (3) Requires any participant whose gross income exceeds 100% of the federal poverty level to pay a premium for participation in this program;
- (4) Requires an individual to participate in an employer-sponsored health insurance plan if the department determines that it is more cost effective;
- (5) Exempts any income earned through certified extended employment at a sheltered workshop for the purposes of determining eligibility; and
- (6) Exempts deposits of up to \$5,000 per year into a medical savings and/or an independent living account from the asset limits for eligibility.

The provisions of the bill will expire three years from the effective date.

The bill contains an emergency clause.