

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 2355
103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

4711H.02C

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 208, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to a MO HealthNet waiver for nutrition services.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 208, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 208.270, to read as follows:

208.270. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Food is Medicine Act".

2. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

(1) "Medically tailored groceries", a selection of groceries, including but not limited to fruits, vegetables, grains, beans, lean proteins, or dairy, that is prescribed by a registered dietitian or qualified clinical team for individuals who are able to prepare food;

(2) "Medically tailored meals", meals used to meet the specific dietary needs of individuals living with one or more chronic conditions or diet-related conditions. Such meals are prescribed by a registered dietitian or qualified clinical team and home-delivered for individuals who are not able to prepare food on their own;

(3) "Produce prescriptions", the prescription of fruits, vegetables, or other healthy foods with no added fats, sugars, or salts to at-risk patients by a registered dietitian or qualified clinical team, typically in the form of coupons or vouchers for local farmers' markets, grocery stores, or mobile markets.

3. The department of social services shall apply to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services of the federal Department of Health and Human Services for a Section 1115 demonstration waiver to implement the "Food is Medicine" program for

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in bold-face type in the above bill is proposed language.

19 the purpose of providing nutritional support through the MO HealthNet program. The
20 food is medicine program shall be designed to improve health outcomes for MO
21 HealthNet participants with nutrition-related chronic diseases through nutrition
22 services and to reduce the need for medical care for those participants.

23 4. Nutrition services covered under this program may include, but shall not be
24 limited to, the following:

25 (1) Case management;

26 (2) Nutrition counseling; and

27 (3) Food provisions prescribed by a registered dietitian or qualified clinical
28 team, including:

29 (a) Medically tailored groceries;

30 (b) Medically tailored meals; and

31 (c) Produce prescriptions.

32 5. Whenever feasible, the MO HealthNet division shall prioritize the inclusion of
33 community-based organizations and local growers to support the purchase of locally
34 grown food in nutrition prescriptions.

35 6. The department of social services shall promulgate all necessary rules and
36 regulations for the administration of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that
37 term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this
38 section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the
39 provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter
40 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly
41 pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul
42 a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority
43 and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2025, shall be invalid and void.

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