

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 2355

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

4711S.03C

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

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
2 one new section, to be known as section 208.270, to read as
3 follows:

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

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

4 (1) "Medically tailored groceries", a selection of
5 groceries, including, but not limited to, fruits,
6 vegetables, grains, beans, lean proteins, or dairy, that is
7 prescribed by a registered dietitian for individuals who are
8 able to prepare food. Such groceries may be specifically
9 selected by a registered dietitian or selected by a
10 participant from a pantry in accordance with dietary
11 recommendations set by a registered dietitian;

12 (2) "Medically tailored meals", meals used to meet the
13 specific dietary needs of individuals living with one or
14 more chronic conditions or diet-related conditions. Such
15 meals are prescribed by a registered dietitian and home-

16 delivered for individuals who are not able to prepare food
17 on their own;

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

23 3. The department of social services shall apply to
24 the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services of the
25 federal Department of Health and Human Services for a
26 Section 1115 demonstration waiver to implement the "Food is
27 Medicine" program for the purpose of providing nutritional
28 support through the MO HealthNet program. The food is
29 medicine program shall be designed to improve health
30 outcomes for MO HealthNet participants with nutrition-
31 related chronic diseases through nutrition services and to
32 reduce the need for medical care for those participants.

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

35 (1) Case management;

36 (2) Nutrition counseling; and

37 (3) Food provisions prescribed by a registered
38 dietitian, including:

39 (a) Medically tailored groceries;

40 (b) Medically tailored meals; and

41 (c) Produce prescriptions.

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

46 6. The department of social services shall promulgate
47 all necessary rules and regulations for the administration

48 of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that
49 term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under
50 the authority delegated in this section shall become
51 effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of
52 the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section
53 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and
54 if any of the powers vested with the general assembly
55 pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective
56 date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently
57 held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking
58 authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28,
59 2026, shall be invalid and void.

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