

Senate Bill 185

By: Senators Parent of the 42nd, Jones II of the 22nd, Orrock of the 36th, Williams of the 39th and Harrell of the 40th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 4 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to general provisions for public assistance, so as to provide for a qualified Medicare  
3 beneficiary program; to provide for eligibility requirements; to provide for application forms;  
4 to provide for contingent effectiveness; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting  
5 laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 1 of Chapter 4 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
9 general provisions for public assistance, is amended by adding a new Code section to read  
10 as follows:

11 "49-4-23.

12 (a) The department shall establish a qualified Medicare beneficiary program designed to  
13 provide financial assistance to low-income Medicare beneficiaries to fill the gaps in  
14 Medicare coverage to pay Medicare premiums, deductibles, and coinsurance for Medicare  
15 covered services or to purchase Medicare supplemental insurance coverage.

16 (b) To be eligible for the program, an individual shall meet the following criteria:

17 (1) Be a citizen or legal resident of the United States and the State of Georgia;

18 (2) Be enrolled in Medicare Part A or be eligible to enroll in Medicare Part A;

19 (3) Does not exceed the asset limits, as identified by the department; and

20 (4) Have limited income, as identified by the department.

21 (c) The department shall adopt application and other necessary forms for eligible  
22 individuals to complete to receive assistance pursuant to the program.

23 (d) This Code section shall be subject to appropriations by the General Assembly for such  
24 purpose."

25

**SECTION 2.**

26 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.