

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 925

98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR SIFTON.

Read 1st time January 14, 2016, and ordered printed.

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

5966S.011

AN ACT

To repeal section 208.146, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to the MO HealthNet buy-in for workers with disabilities program.

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

Section A. Section 208.146, RSMo, is repealed and one new section
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 208.146, to read as follows:

208.146. 1. The program established under this section shall be known
2 as the "[Ticket to Work Health Assurance] **MO HealthNet Buy-In For**
3 **Workers With Disabilities Program**". Subject to appropriations and in
4 accordance with the federal Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act
5 of 1999 (TWWIA), Public Law 106-170, the medical assistance provided for in
6 section 208.151 may be paid for a person who is employed and who:

7 (1) Except for earnings, meets the definition of disabled under the
8 Supplemental Security Income Program or meets the definition of an employed
9 individual with a medically improved disability under TWWIA;

10 (2) Has earned income, as defined in subsection 2 of this section; **and**

11 (3) [Meets the asset limits in subsection 3 of this section;

12 (4)] Has [net] income[, as defined in subsection 3 of this section,] that does
13 not exceed [the limit for permanent and totally disabled individuals to receive
14 nonspenddown MO HealthNet under subdivision (24) of subsection 1 of section
15 208.151; and

16 (5) Has a gross income of two hundred fifty percent or less of the federal
17 poverty level, excluding any earned income of the worker with a disability
18 between two hundred fifty and three hundred percent of the federal poverty
19 level. For purposes of this subdivision, "gross income" includes all income of the

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

20 person and the person's spouse that would be considered in determining MO
21 HealthNet eligibility for permanent and totally disabled individuals under
22 subdivision (24) of subsection 1 of section 208.151. Individuals with gross
23 incomes in excess of one hundred percent of the federal poverty level shall pay a
24 premium for participation in accordance with subsection 4 of this section] **three**
25 **hundred percent of the federal poverty level. For purposes of this**
26 **subdivision, "income" includes all income of the person that would be**
27 **considered in determining MO HealthNet eligibility for permanent and**
28 **totally disabled individuals under subdivision (24) of subsection 1 of**
29 **section 208.151. Individuals with incomes in excess of one hundred**
30 **percent of the federal poverty level shall pay a premium for**
31 **participation in accordance with subsection 4 of this section.**

32 2. For income to be considered earned income for purposes of this section,
33 the department of social services shall document that Medicare and Social
34 Security taxes are withheld from such income. Self-employed persons shall
35 provide proof of payment of Medicare and Social Security taxes for income to be
36 considered earned.

37 3. (1) For purposes of determining eligibility under this section, [the
38 available] **there shall be no** asset limit [and the definition of available assets
39 shall be the same as those used to determine MO HealthNet eligibility for
40 permanent and totally disabled individuals under subdivision (24) of subsection
41 1 of section 208.151 except for:

42 (a) Medical savings accounts limited to deposits of earned income and
43 earnings on such income while a participant in the program created under this
44 section with a value not to exceed five thousand dollars per year; and

45 (b) Independent living accounts limited to deposits of earned income and
46 earnings on such income while a participant in the program created under this
47 section with a value not to exceed five thousand dollars per year. For purposes
48 of this section, an "independent living account" means an account established and
49 maintained to provide savings for transportation, housing, home modification, and
50 personal care services and assistive devices associated with such person's
51 disability].

52 (2) To determine [net] income, the following shall be disregarded:

53 (a) All earned income of the [disabled worker] **spouse**;

54 (b) [The first sixty-five dollars and one-half of the remaining earned
55 income of a nondisabled spouse's earned income;

56 (c)] A twenty dollar standard deduction;

57 [(d)] (c) Health insurance premiums;

58 [(e)] (d) A seventy-five dollar a month standard deduction for the
59 disabled worker's dental and optical insurance when the total dental and optical
60 insurance premiums are less than seventy-five dollars;

61 [(f)] (e) All Supplemental Security Income payments, and the first fifty
62 dollars of SSDI payments;

63 [(g)] (f) A standard deduction for impairment-related employment
64 expenses equal to one-half of the disabled worker's earned income.

65 4. Any person whose [gross] income exceeds one hundred percent of the
66 federal poverty level shall pay a premium for participation in the medical
67 assistance provided in this section. Such premium shall be:

68 (1) For a person whose [gross] income is more than one hundred percent
69 but less than one hundred fifty percent of the federal poverty level, four percent
70 of income at one hundred percent of the federal poverty level;

71 (2) For a person whose [gross] income equals or exceeds one hundred fifty
72 percent but is less than two hundred percent of the federal poverty level, four
73 percent of income at one hundred fifty percent of the federal poverty level;

74 (3) For a person whose [gross] income equals or exceeds two hundred
75 percent but less than two hundred fifty percent of the federal poverty level, five
76 percent of income at two hundred percent of the federal poverty level;

77 (4) For a person whose [gross] income equals or exceeds two hundred fifty
78 percent up to and including three hundred percent of the federal poverty level,
79 six percent of income at two hundred fifty percent of the federal poverty level.

80 5. Recipients of services through this program shall report any change in
81 income or household size within ten days of the occurrence of such change. An
82 increase in premiums resulting from a reported change in income or household
83 size shall be effective with the next premium invoice that is mailed to a person
84 after due process requirements have been met. A decrease in premiums shall be
85 effective the first day of the month immediately following the month in which the
86 change is reported.

87 6. If an eligible person's employer offers employer-sponsored health
88 insurance and the department of social services determines that it is more cost
89 effective, such person shall participate in the employer-sponsored insurance. The
90 department shall pay such person's portion of the premiums, co-payments, and
91 any other costs associated with participation in the employer-sponsored health

92 insurance. If the department elects to pay such person's employer-
93 sponsored insurance costs pursuant to this subsection, then the medical
94 assistance provided under this section shall be provided to an eligible
95 person as a secondary or supplemental policy to any employer-
96 sponsored benefits which may be available to such person.

97 7. The [provisions of this section shall expire August 28, 2019]
98 department shall provide to the general assembly an annual report of
99 the number of participants in the program, as well as describe the
100 outreach and education efforts to increase awareness and enrollment
101 in MO HealthNet buy-in for workers with disabilities.

102 8. The department shall submit such state plan amendments and
103 waivers to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services of the
104 federal Department of Health and Human Services as the department
105 determines are necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

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Bill

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