

Approved May 13, 2003.

CHAPTER 270

(House Bill 17)

AN ACT concerning

Maryland Pharmacy Assistance Program - Eligibility

FOR the purpose of altering the eligibility guidelines for participation in the Maryland Pharmacy Assistance Program; making a certain technical correction; and generally relating to pharmacy assistance programs.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General

Section 15-124

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2000 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Health - General

15-124.

(a) [(1)] The Department shall maintain a Maryland Pharmacy Assistance Program for low income individuals whose:

[(i)] (1) Assets are not more than [1.5 times the amount of accountable resources according to the asset schedule of the Maryland Medical Assistance Program] THE LEVEL ESTABLISHED BY THE FEDERAL CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES UNDER THE QUALIFIED MEDICARE BENEFICIARY PROGRAM; and

[(ii)] (2) Gross annual income does not exceed[:

1. \$4,600 plus \$500 for each individual over 1 in a family unit] 116% OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR AN INDIVIDUAL OR 100% OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR A FAMILY OF TWO OR MORE[; and

2. An annual increase set by the Secretary under paragraph (2)(ii)4 of this subsection.

(2) (i) 1. In this paragraph the following words have the meanings indicated.

2. "Income disregard" means the exclusion of up to \$1,000 of annual income earned by an individual as a client of a sheltered workshop if the individual's sole other income is derived from a Social Security payment.