

THE KIDNEY DISEASE PROGRAM IS A PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FUNDING OF KIDNEY DISEASE TREATMENT FOR QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS WHO ELECT TO ENROLL IN THE PROGRAM AND AGREE TO PAY FEES WHICH ARE DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBTITLE.

13-302.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) "COMMISSION" MEANS THE STATE COMMISSION ON KIDNEY DISEASE.

(C) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMINISTERING THE KIDNEY DISEASE PROGRAM.

(D) (1) "LIQUID ASSETS" INCLUDES CASH, BANK ACCOUNTS, AND INVESTMENTS SUCH AS STOCKS AND BONDS THAT CAN BE READILY CONVERTED TO CASH.

(2) "LIQUID ASSETS" DOES NOT INCLUDE AN INDIVIDUAL'S:

(I) PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE; OR

(II) PRINCIPAL CAR.

(E) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE KIDNEY DISEASE PROGRAM.

(F) "RECIPIENT" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WITH CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE WHO HAS BEEN CERTIFIED TO RECEIVE BENEFITS UNDER THE KIDNEY DISEASE PROGRAM.

[13-302.] 13-303.

(a) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) One of the most serious and tragic problems facing the public health and welfare is the death of hundreds of people in this State each year from chronic kidney disease, when the present state of medical art and technology could return these individuals to a socially productive life;

(2) Advances and discoveries in the treatment of patients who have chronic kidney disease [now] allow not mere survival, but rehabilitation to normal occupations and activities; [and]

[(3) Without the kidney disease program under this subtitle, these people would die because of inability to pay for the expensive equipment and care that they need.]

(3) TREATMENT FOR PERSONS WITH KIDNEY DISEASE IS VERY EXPENSIVE AND CONTINUES THROUGHOUT A PERSON'S LIFE;