

## **NOTICE OF INTENT**

### **Department of Health Bureau of Health Services Financing**

#### **Medicaid Eligibility Medicare Savings Programs (LAC 50:III.10703 and 10705)**

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend LAC 50:III.10703 and §10705 in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 36:254 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act. This proposed Rule is promulgated in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing currently utilizes the income and asset methodologies of the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program to determine Medicaid eligibility of aged, blind and disabled individuals applying for coverage under the Medicare Savings Programs (MSP). Under Section 1902(r)(2) of the Social Security Act, states are allowed to use less restrictive income and asset methodologies in determining eligibility for most Medicaid eligibility groups than are used by the cash assistance program. The department proposes to amend the provisions governing financial eligibility in the Medical Assistance Program in order to disregard all resources of aged, blind and disabled individuals in all MSP eligibility determinations.

## TITLE 50

### PUBLIC HEALTH-MEDICAL ASSISTANCE Part III. Eligibility Subpart 5. Financial Eligibility

#### Chapter 107. Resources

##### §10703. General Provisions

A. - C.1.b. ...

~~2. Resource Assessment. The assets test for full Low Income Subsidy (LIS) eligibility is set at three times the SSI asset standard, indexed annually by the increase in the consumer price index.~~

~~a. Effective January 1, 2010, the asset limit for all Medicare Savings Programs will be the same as the asset limit for Medicare's Part D full benefit LIS.~~ 2. - 2.a. Repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 36:2867 (December 2010), amended by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 45:

##### §10705. Resource Disregards

A. - B.1. ...

C. ~~Effective January 1, 2010, the following assets~~ All resources shall be disregarded in eligibility determinations for all Medicare Savings Programs~~+~~.

~~1. all life insurance, regardless of cash surrender value; and~~

~~2. all vehicles, regardless of value. 1. - 2.~~

Repealed.

D. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing and the Office of Aging and Adult Services, LR 35:1899 (September 2009), amended LR 36:2867 (December 2010), LR 41:949 (May 2015), amended by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 45:

Implementation of the provisions of this Rule may be contingent upon the approval of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), if it is determined that submission to CMS for review and approval is required.

#### **Family Impact Statement**

In compliance with Act 1183 of the 1999 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the impact of this proposed Rule on the family has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on family functioning, stability and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972.

### **Poverty Impact Statement**

In compliance with Act 854 of the 2012 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the poverty impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on child, individual, or family poverty in relation to individual or community asset development as described in R.S. 49:973.

### **Small Business Analysis**

In compliance with Act 820 of the 2008 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the economic impact of this proposed Rule on small businesses has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on small businesses, as described in R.S. 49:965.2 et seq.

### **Provider Impact Statement**

In compliance with House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 170 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the provider impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service, no direct or indirect cost to the provider to provide the same level of service, and will have no impact on the provider's ability to provide the same level of service as described in HCR 170.

### **Public Comments**

Interested persons may submit written comments to Jen Steele, Bureau of Health Services Financing, P.O. Box 91030, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030. Ms. Steele is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this proposed Rule. The deadline for submitting written comments is at 4:30 p.m. on October 30, 2019.

Interested persons may submit a written request to conduct a public hearing by U.S. mail to the Office of the Secretary ATTN: LDH Rulemaking Coordinator, Post Office Box 629, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-0629; however, such request must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on October 10, 2019. If the criteria set forth in R.S. 49:953(A)(2)(a) are satisfied, LDH will conduct a public hearing at 9:30 a.m. on October 30, 2019 in Room 118 of the Bienville Building, which is located at 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA. To confirm whether or not a public hearing will be held, interested persons should first call Allen Enger at (225) 342-1342 after October 10, 2019. If a public hearing is to be held, all interested persons are invited to attend and present data, views, comments, or arguments, orally or in writing. In the event of a hearing, parking is available to the public in the Galvez Parking Garage which is located between North Sixth and North Fifth/North and Main Streets (cater-corner from the Bienville Building). Validated parking for the Galvez Garage may be available to public hearing

attendees when the parking ticket is presented to LDH staff at the hearing.

Rebekah E. Gee MD, MPH

Secretary