



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 293

February Session, 2026

Senate Bill No. 329

Senate, April 1, 2026

The Committee on Human Services reported through SEN. LESSER of the 9th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT EXPANDING MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY FOR OLDER ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17b-261 of the 2026 supplement to
2 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

4 (a) Medical assistance shall be provided for any otherwise eligible
5 person (1) whose income, including any available support from legally
6 liable relatives and the income of the person's spouse or dependent
7 child, is not more than one hundred fifty-nine per cent, pending
8 approval of a federal waiver applied for pursuant to subsection (e) of
9 this section, of the benefit amount paid to a person with no income
10 under the temporary family assistance program, and (2) if such person
11 is an institutionalized individual as defined in Section 1917 of the Social
12 Security Act, 42 USC 1396p(h)(3), and has not made an assignment or
13 transfer or other disposition of property for less than fair market value
14 for the purpose of establishing eligibility for benefits or assistance under

15 this section. Any such disposition shall be treated in accordance with
16 Section 1917(c) of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1396p(c). Any
17 disposition of property made on behalf of an applicant or recipient or
18 the spouse of an applicant or recipient by a guardian, conservator,
19 person authorized to make such disposition pursuant to a power of
20 attorney or other person so authorized by law shall be attributed to such
21 applicant, recipient or spouse. A disposition of property ordered by a
22 court shall be evaluated in accordance with the standards applied to any
23 other such disposition for the purpose of determining eligibility. The
24 commissioner shall establish the standards for eligibility for medical
25 assistance at one hundred fifty-nine per cent of the benefit amount paid
26 to a household of equal size with no income under the temporary family
27 assistance program. In determining eligibility, the commissioner shall
28 not consider as income United States Department of Veterans Affairs-
29 administered Aid and Attendance pension benefits that are granted to a
30 veteran, as defined in section 27-103, or the surviving spouse of such
31 veteran, or, on and after July 1, 2026, benefits received under Title II of
32 the Social Security Act by a disabled adult child who meets the criteria
33 set forth in 42 USC 402(d)(1)(G). Except as provided in section 17b-277
34 and section 17b-292, the medical assistance program shall provide
35 coverage to persons under the age of nineteen with household income
36 up to one hundred ninety-six per cent of the federal poverty level
37 without an asset limit and to persons under the age of nineteen, who
38 qualify for coverage under Section 1931 of the Social Security Act, with
39 household income not exceeding one hundred ninety-six per cent of the
40 federal poverty level without an asset limit, and their parents and needy
41 caretaker relatives, who qualify for coverage under Section 1931 of the
42 Social Security Act, with household income not exceeding one hundred
43 thirty-three per cent of the federal poverty level without an asset limit.
44 Such levels shall be based on the regional differences in such benefit
45 amount, if applicable, unless such levels based on regional differences
46 are not in conformance with federal law. Any income in excess of the
47 applicable amounts shall be applied as may be required by said federal
48 law, and assistance shall be granted for the balance of the cost of
49 authorized medical assistance. The Commissioner of Social Services

50 shall provide applicants for assistance under this section, at the time of
 51 application, with a written statement advising them of (A) the effect of
 52 an assignment or transfer or other disposition of property on eligibility
 53 for benefits or assistance, (B) the effect that having income that exceeds
 54 the limits prescribed in this subsection will have with respect to
 55 program eligibility, and (C) the availability of, and eligibility for,
 56 services provided by the Connecticut Home Visiting System,
 57 established pursuant to section 17b-751b. For coverage dates on or after
 58 January 1, 2014, the department shall use the modified adjusted gross
 59 income financial eligibility rules set forth in Section 1902(e)(14) of the
 60 Social Security Act and the implementing regulations to determine
 61 eligibility for HUSKY A, HUSKY B and HUSKY D applicants, as defined
 62 in section 17b-290. To the extent permissible under federal law, the
 63 Commissioner of Social Services shall disregard all United States
 64 Department of Veterans Affairs-administered non-service-connected
 65 pension benefits, Aid and Attendance pension benefits and
 66 Housebound pension benefits that are granted to a veteran or the
 67 surviving spouse of such veteran when determining income eligibility
 68 for HUSKY A and HUSKY D applicants. Persons who are determined
 69 ineligible for assistance pursuant to this section shall be provided a
 70 written statement notifying such persons of their ineligibility and
 71 advising such persons of their potential eligibility for one of the other
 72 insurance affordability programs as defined in 42 CFR 435.4.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2026	17b-261(a)

HS *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Social Services, Dept.	GF - Cost	See Below	See Below
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Revenue Gain	125,000	None

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a cost to the Department of Social Services (DSS) associated with disregarding certain federal social security benefits received by an adult disabled child for HUSKY C income eligibility purposes. The state will experience costs to the extent this change (1) makes an individual eligible sooner than they otherwise would be (because a spend-down is no longer required), (2) maintains eligibility for a client who would otherwise lose coverage upon receipt of such benefits, or (3) results in new HUSKY C enrollees who would not otherwise seek coverage.

DSS will also incur costs of approximately \$250,000 related to system modifications, resulting in a federal grants revenue gain of approximately \$125,000.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to HUSKY C eligibility and service utilization.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 329*****AN ACT EXPANDING MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY FOR OLDER ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES.*****SUMMARY**

Starting July 1, 2026, this bill excludes certain federal Social Security income from Medicaid eligibility determinations, making it easier for people with this income to qualify for HUSKY C. Specifically, it excludes Social Security benefits received by a disabled adult child.

Under federal law, a disabled adult child is an unmarried person who is at least age 18 with a disability that began before age 22. A disabled adult child may be eligible for benefits based on their parent's earning record. HUSKY C is Connecticut's Medicaid program for people who are elderly, blind, or living with a disability.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

BACKGROUND***Related Bills***

SB 326, favorably reported by the Human Services Committee, phases out the HUSKY C asset limit.

HB 5302 (File 95), favorably reported by the Aging Committee, increases the HUSKY C asset limit.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 23 Nay 0 (03/19/2026)