

SENATE BILL 1161

By Massey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;  
Title 50; Title 56 and Title 71, relative to health  
insurance vouchers for medical assistance.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, Chapter 5, is amended by adding the following as a new part:

**71-5-1101.** The commissioner of finance and administration is directed to apply for an appropriate federal waiver to the federal department of health and human services to provide medical assistance to certain persons whose income does not exceed one hundred thirty-eight percent (138%) of the federal poverty line in accordance with this part.

**71-5-1102.** An uninsured adult who is employed for more that twenty-four (24) hours per week each month and whose income is one hundred percent (100%) of the federal poverty line or more, but does not exceed one hundred thirty-eight percent (138%) of the federal poverty line, shall be eligible for medical assistance as part of the newly eligible population in the form of a voucher from the bureau of TennCare. The voucher shall be in the amount of three hundred dollars (\$300) per month for an individual and five hundred dollars (\$500) per month for an individual with dependents. Eligible individuals may apply a voucher to any individual or group health insurance plan lawfully offered in this state. The voucher will pay the last dollar of the plan up to the maximum amount of the voucher.

**71-5-1103.** The voucher program shall terminate if the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Pub. L. 111-148, as amended, and federal funding for an expansion of medical assistance under that legislation is no longer in effect.

**71-5-1104.** The program established under this part shall be funded from revenues allocated by the general appropriations act from the hospital assessment imposed by part 8 of this chapter.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-5-804(a), is amended by deleting the language “four and fifty-two hundredths percent (4.52%)” and by substituting the language “six percent (6%)”.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-5-806, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.