

30:4D-36 to 30:4D-42

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 30 4D-36 to 30:4D-42 "Hearing Aid Assistance for the Aged and Disabled"

LAWS OF: 1987 **CHAPTER:** 298

Bill No: A2303

Sponsor(s): Smith and others

Date Introduced: March 13, 1986

Committee: **Assembly:** Appropriations
Senate: Revenue, Finance and Appropriations

Amended during passage: Yes Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks.

Date of Passage: **Assembly:** December 15, 1986
Senate: September 14, 1987

Date of Approval: November 4, 1987

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes

Committee statement: **Assembly** Yes
Senate Yes

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on Signing: No

Following were printed:

Reports: No

Hearings: No

298

87

11-4-87

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ASSEMBLY, No. 2303

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 13, 1986

By Assemblywoman SMITH, Assemblymen AZZOLINA, KAVANAUGH, BENNETT, PALAIA, Assemblywoman DONOVAN, Assemblymen SMITH, DiGAETANO, PATERNITI, Assemblywomen GARVIN, KALIK and Assemblyman ZANGARI

AN ACT concerning hearing aid assistance for the aged and disabled ****[and]**** *******, ****** supplementing Title 30 of the Revised Statutes ****and making an appropriation****.

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
2 *of New Jersey:*

1 1. There is established in the Department of Human Services a
2 program which shall be known as "Hearing Aid Assistance for
3 the Aged and Disabled."

1 2. A person eligible for the Hearing Aid Assistance for the Aged
2 and Disabled Program is entitled to receive a payment of up to
3 \$100.00 in a calendar year in which a hearing aid is purchased to
4 offset the cost of the hearing aid. For the purposes of this act,
5 "hearing aid" means an ear-level or body-worn electroacoustic
6 instrument for amplifying sound whose basic components are a
7 microphone, amplifier and receiver.

1 3. A person who meets the age or disability, income and resi-
2 dency requirements of the "Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged
3 and Disabled" program, P. L. 1975, c. 194 (C. 30:4D-20 et seq.),
4 is eligible for hearing aid assistance pursuant to this act if he is
5 not otherwise qualified for Medicaid pursuant to P. L. 1968, c. 413
6 (C. 30:4D-1 et seq.).

1 4. a. If an otherwise eligible person's hearing aid costs are
2 covered in whole by any other State or federal government pro-

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter printed in italics *thus* is new matter.

Matter enclosed in asterisks or stars has been adopted as follows:

*—Assembly committee amendment adopted May 22, 1986.

**—Assembly committee amendments adopted October 2, 1986.

***—Assembly amendments adopted December 11, 1986.

3 gram or insurance contract, the person is not eligible for hearing
4 aid assistance under this act.

5 b. If an eligible person's hearing aid costs are covered in part
6 by any other State or federal government program or insurance
7 contract, the person may be ****[required]**** ***entitled*** to receive
8 a reduced hearing aid assistance under this act.

1 5. The Commissioner of Human Services shall by regulation
2 establish a system for issuing payments to eligible persons and a
3 system for determining eligibility which includes provisions for
4 submitting proof of an applicant's actual and anticipated annual
5 income, evidence of complete or partial coverage of hearing aid
6 costs by any other government program or insurance contract and
7 actual hearing aid costs incurred during the year.

1 6. The Commissioner of Human Services shall, pursuant to the
2 "Administrative Procedure Act," P. L. 1968, c. 410 (C. 52:14B-1
3 et seq.) adopt rules and regulations necessary to carry out the
4 purposes of this act.

1 7. The Hearing Aid Assistance for the Aged and Disabled Pro-
2 gram shall be funded by the ***[Casino Revenue Fund created pur-
3 suant to section 145 of P. L. 1977, c. 110 (C. 5:12-145)]* ***[Gen-
4 eral Fund]*** ****Casino Revenue Fund created pursuant to sec-
5 tion 145 of P. L. 1977, c. 110 (C. 5:12-145)****.

1 ***8. There is appropriated from the *****[General Fund]****
2 *****Casino Revenue Fund*** to the Department of Human Services
3 \$540,000.00 to effectuate the purposes of this act.*****

1 ****[8.]**** ***9.*** This act shall take effect on the 90th day follow-
2 ing enactment.

SENIOR CITIZENS

Establishes the Hearing Aid Assistance for the Aged and Disabled
Program; appropriates \$540,000.

ASSEMBLY, No. 2303

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 13, 1986

By Assemblywoman SMITH, Assemblymen AZZOLINA, KAVANAUGH, BENNETT, PALAIA, Assemblywoman DONOVAN, Assemblymen SMITH, DiGAETANO, PATERNITI, Assemblywomen GARVIN, KALIK and Assemblyman ZANGARI

AN ACT concerning hearing aid assistance for the aged and disabled and supplementing Title 30 of the Revised Statutes.

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
2 *of New Jersey:*

1 1. There is established in the Department of Human Services a
2 program which shall be known as "Hearing Aid Assistance for
3 the Aged and Disabled."

1 2. A person eligible for the Hearing Aid Assistance for the Aged
2 and Disabled Program is entitled to receive a payment of up to
3 \$100.00 in a calendar year in which a hearing aid is purchased to
4 offset the cost of the hearing aid. For the purposes of this act,
5 "hearing aid" means an ear-level or body-worn electroacoustic
6 instrument for amplifying sound whose basic components are a
7 microphone, amplifier and receiver.

1 3. A person who meets the age or disability, income and resi-
2 dency requirements of the "Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged
3 and Disabled" program, P. L. 1975, c. 194 (C. 30:4D-20 et seq.),
4 is eligible for hearing aid assistance pursuant to this act if he is
5 not otherwise qualified for Medicaid pursuant to P. L. 1968, c. 413
6 (C. 30:4D-1 et seq.).

1 4. a. If an otherwise eligible person's hearing aid costs are
2 covered in whole by any other State or federal government pro-
3 gram or insurance contract, the person is not eligible for hearing
4 aid assistance under this act.

5 b. If an eligible person's hearing aid costs are covered in part
6 by any other State or federal government program or insurance
7 contract, the person may be required to receive a reduced hearing
8 aid assistance under this act.

1 5. The Commissioner of Human Services shall be regulation
2 establish a system for issuing payments to eligible persons and a
3 system for determining eligibility which includes provisions for
4 submitting proof of an applicant's actual and anticipated annual
5 income, evidence of complete or partial coverage of hearing aid
6 costs by any other government program or insurance contract and
7 actual hearing aid costs incurred during the year.

1 6. The Commissioner of Human Services shall, pursuant to the
2 "Administrative Procedure Act," P. L. 1968, c. 410 (C. 52:14B-1
3 et seq.) adopt rules and regulations necessary to carry out the
4 purposes of this act.

1 7. The Hearing Aid Assistance for the Aged and Disabled Pro-
2 gram shall be funded by the Casino Revenue Fund created pursuant
3 to section 145 of P. L. 1977, c. 110 (C. 5:12-145).

1 8. This act shall take effect on the 90th day following enactment.

STATEMENT

This bill establishes the Hearing Aid Assistance for the Aged and Disabled Program in the Department of Human Services to provide up to a \$100.00 payment in a calendar year in which a hearing aid is purchased by an eligible recipient. The eligibility criteria for this program are the same as for the Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled Program. These criteria include:

- (1) The person is a resident of the State of New Jersey;
- (2) The person is either disabled pursuant to the federal Social Security Act (42 U. S. C. section 416 (i)) or 65 years of age and over; and
- (3) The person's annual income is less than \$13,250.00 if single or \$16,250.00 when combined with that of his spouse if married.

This program shall be funded from the Casino Revenue Fund.

SENIOR CITIZENS

Establishes the Hearing Aid Assistance for the Aged and Disabled Program in the Department of Human Services and provides that the program shall be funded from the Casino Revenue Fund.

A 2303 (1987)

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 2303

[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]

with Assembly committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 2, 1986

The Assembly Appropriations Committee favorably reports Assembly Bill No. 2303 OCR with amendments.

Assembly Bill No. 2303 (OCR), as amended establishes, in the Department of Human Services, the "Hearing Aid Assistance for the Aged and Disabled" program. The program is to provide up to \$100.00 to an eligible recipient. The eligibility criteria is the same as for the Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled program (PAAD).

Those persons otherwise eligible whose hearing aid costs are covered by any other State or federal government program or insurance contract would not receive assistance from this program. Those receiving partial coverage may be entitled to reduced hearing aid assistance under this program. The funding is to be from the General Fund.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to appropriate \$540,000.00 which represents 20% of the eligible population that may need to apply for this program.

SENATE REVENUE, FINANCE AND APPROPRIATIONS
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 2303

[THIRD OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 10, 1987

The Senate Revenue, Finance and Appropriations Committee reported Assembly Bill No. 2303 (3rd OCR) favorably.

Assembly Bill No. 2303 (3rd OCR) appropriates \$540,000.00 to the Department of Human Services for a "Hearing Aid Assistance for the Aged and Disabled" program. The program is to provide up to \$100.00 to an eligible recipient. The eligibility criteria is the same as for the Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled program (PAAD).

Those persons otherwise eligible whose hearing aid costs are covered by any other State or federal government program or insurance contract would not receive assistance from this program. Those receiving partial coverage may be entitled to reduced hearing aid assistance under this program.

The bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 2048 (OCR), as amended.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill appropriates \$540,000.00 from the Casino Revenue Fund to the Department of Human Services for a "Hearing Aid Assistance for the Aged and Disabled" program. The department estimates that the cost for one full year for the program will be \$3.2 million. The fiscal year 1988 budget included an appropriation of \$1.5 million for this program. The department estimates that with the appropriation included in this bill and the budget appropriation, the program can be funded for the remainder of FY 1988.



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR NEWS RELEASE

CN-001

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TRENTON, N.J. 08625

Release: WED., NOV. 4, 1987

Governor Thomas H. Kean today signed the following legislation:

A-2303, sponsored by Assemblywoman Joann Smith, R-Monmouth and Senator Richard Van Wagner, D-Monmouth, establishes the Hearing Aid Assistance for the Aged and Disabled program.

The \$540,000 appropriation will allow for grants of up to \$100 per year to eligible recipients for the purchase, repair, or replacement of hearing aids.

To be eligible, a person must be disabled pursuant to the federal Social Security Act, or be over 65 years of age. The person's annual income must be less than \$13,250 if single or \$16,250 if married.

The legislation is effective in ninety days.

A-4073, sponsored by Assemblyman Wayne Bryant, D-Camden, Assemblyman Harold Colburn, R-Burlington and Senator Walter Rand, D-Camden, designates Cooper Hospital/University Medical Center in Camden as the State's specialty acute care children's hospital for the ten southern counties in New Jersey.

The designation of Cooper Hospital as the specialty acute care children's hospital for Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Mercer, Monmouth, Ocean and Salem counties follows the designation of Children's Hospital of New Jersey, a unit of United Hospitals Medical Center in Newark, as a similar facility.

The legislation is effective immediately.

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