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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 2985

03/14/2016 Authored by Quam, Franson, Pugh, Hertaus, Pelowski and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services Reform

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to human services; clarifying the meaning of the household size
1.3 methodology for pregnant women under medical assistance; amending
1.4 Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 256B.056, subdivision 1a.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 256B.056, subdivision 1a, is amended to
1.7 read:

1.8 Subd. 1a. **Income and assets generally.** (a)(1) Unless specifically required by
1.9 state law or rule or federal law or regulation, the methodologies used in counting income
1.10 and assets to determine eligibility for medical assistance for persons whose eligibility
1.11 category is based on blindness, disability, or age of 65 or more years, the methodologies
1.12 for the Supplemental Security Income program shall be used, except as provided under
1.13 subdivision 3, paragraph (a), clause (6).

1.14 (2) Increases in benefits under title II of the Social Security Act shall not be counted
1.15 as income for purposes of this subdivision until July 1 of each year. Effective upon federal
1.16 approval, for children eligible under section 256B.055, subdivision 12, or for home and
1.17 community-based waiver services whose eligibility for medical assistance is determined
1.18 without regard to parental income, child support payments, including any payments made
1.19 by an obligor in satisfaction of or in addition to a temporary or permanent order for child
1.20 support, and Social Security payments are not counted as income.

1.21 (b)(1) The modified adjusted gross income methodology as defined in the Affordable
1.22 Care Act shall be used for eligibility categories based on:

1.23 (i) children under age 19 and their parents and relative caretakers as defined in
1.24 section 256B.055, subdivision 3a;

- 2.1 (ii) children ages 19 to 20 as defined in section 256B.055, subdivision 16;
2.2 (iii) pregnant women as defined in section 256B.055, subdivision 6;
2.3 (iv) infants as defined in sections 256B.055, subdivision 10, and 256B.057,
2.4 subdivision 8; and
2.5 (v) adults without children as defined in section 256B.055, subdivision 15.

2.6 For these purposes, a "methodology" does not include an asset or income standard,
2.7 or accounting method, or method of determining effective dates.

2.8 (2) For individuals whose income eligibility is determined using the modified
2.9 adjusted gross income methodology in clause (1), the commissioner shall subtract from
2.10 the individual's modified adjusted gross income an amount equivalent to five percent
2.11 of the federal poverty guidelines.

2.12 (3) In determining the family size of a pregnant woman for purposes of medical
2.13 assistance eligibility, the commissioner shall count the pregnant woman plus the number
2.14 of children she is expected to deliver, as required under Code of Federal Regulations, title
2.15 42, part 435.603. This household size methodology for pregnant women means that
2.16 an unborn child shall be considered to be a human being for purposes of developing,
2.17 administering, and interpreting state law and policy.