Senate

General Assembly

File No. 423

January Session, 2025

Substitute Senate Bill No. 807

Senate, April 2, 2025

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 substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ELIMINATION OF ASSET LIMITS FOR HUSKY C BENEFICIARIES OVER A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD.

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

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall increase and then eliminate the asset limit for the HUSKY C health program, as defined in section 17b-290 of the general statutes, over a five-year period in accordance with the provisions of this section:

(1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the commissioner shall increase the asset limit for (A) an unmarried person from one thousand six hundred dollars to ten thousand dollars, and (B) married persons from two thousand four hundred dollars to fifteen thousand dollars;

(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the commissioner shall increase the asset limit for (A) an unmarried person to twenty-five thousand dollars, and (B) married persons to forty thousand dollars;

(3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028, the commissioner shall increase the asset limit for (A) an unmarried person to seventy-five

thousand dollars, and (B) married persons to one hundred thousand dollars;

(4) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2029, the commissioner shall increase the asset limit for (A) an unmarried person to one hundred thousand dollars, and (B) married persons to one hundred fifty thousand dollars; and

(5) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2030, and each fiscal year thereafter, there shall be no asset limit for unmarried or married persons.

(b) The Commissioner of Social Services shall allow any person, whose income exceeds the income limits for the HUSKY C health program but who otherwise qualifies, to qualify for the program by spending down such person's excess income over the program income limits on incurred medical bills in accordance with 42 CFR 435.831.

(c) Not later than July 1, 2026, and annually thereafter until July 1, 2030, the commissioner shall file a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, with the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and human services on (1) the number of persons eligible for the HUSKY C health program for the prior fiscal year, and (2) any increased costs incurred by the state that are attributable to changes in the asset limits.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	*July 1, 2025*	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:
In Subsec. (c), "and the budgets of state agencies" was inserted after "appropriations" for statutory consistency.

HS *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*

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 26 $	FY 27 $
Social Services, Dept.	GF - Cost	$42 million	$150 million
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Revenue Gain	at least $600,000	at least $100,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a cost to the Department of Social Services (DSS) of approximately $42 million in FY 26 and $150 million in FY 27 associated with expanding HUSKY C eligibility. The bill increases the asset limit each year until eliminating the threshold on 7/1/29.

Currently, the asset limit for HUSKY C is $1,600 for an individual and $2,400 for a married couple. The bill increases the asset limit to $10,000 for an individual and $15,000 for a couple effective 7/1/25, and to $25,000 and $40,000, respectively, effective 7/1/26. Estimates are based on coverage of similar members in other states and used as a proxy for estimating the potential increase in coverage for Connecticut. For context, this assumes an average cost of approximately $570 per member per month and gradual increase in enrollment over time. This also assumes costs of approximately $1.2 million in FY 26 and $200,000 in FY 27 to support system change and maintenance costs, which result in federal grants revenue gain of at least $600,000 in FY 26 and $100,000 in FY 27.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the disposition of assets for individuals otherwise eligible for HUSKY C.

OLR Bill Analysis
sSB 807

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ELIMINATION OF ASSET LIMITS FOR HUSKY C BENEFICIARIES OVER A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) commissioner to increase and then eliminate the HUSKY C asset limit over a five-year period, as shown in the table below. HUSKY C provides Medicaid coverage to people who are age 65 or older, blind, or living with a disability.

Table: HUSKY C Asset Limit Changes Under the Bill

Time Period	*Single Person*	*Married Couple*
Current law	$1,600	$2,400
FY 26	$10,000	$15,000
FY 27	$25,000	$40,000
FY 28	$75,000	$100,000
FY 29	$100,000	$150,000
FY 30	No Limit	No Limit

The bill also requires the commissioner to allow a person to spend down income that exceeds HUSKY C income limits on incurred medical bills in accordance with federal regulations on Medicaid spend-downs, so long as the person otherwise qualifies for HUSKY C, generally conforming to current practice.

Lastly, the bill requires the commissioner, starting by July 1, 2026, to report annually to the Appropriations and Human Services committees on (1) the number of people eligible for HUSKY C for the prior fiscal year and (2) any increased costs incurred by the state that are attributable to the bill's changes in asset limits.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2025

BACKGROUND

Related Bills

sSB 11, § 9, favorably reported by the Human Services Committee, also requires DSS to eliminate the asset limit for HUSKY C over a five-year period.

SB 981, favorably reported by the Human Services Committee, requires DSS to disregard certain Social Security income for disabled adult children when determining income eligibility for HUSKY C.

sHB 6911 (File 110), favorably reported by the Aging Committee, requires DSS, starting July 1, 2025, to increase HUSKY C asset limits by at least the same percentage increase as the national consumer price index.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable
Yea 16 Nay 6 (03/13/2025)