

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

(PREFILED)

January 7, 2015

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Introduced by Sen. DIAZ -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Aging

AN ACT to amend the elder law, in relation to establishing a senior dental services grant program

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. The elder law is amended by adding a new section 215-c to  
2     read as follows:

3     S 215-C. SENIOR DENTAL SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM. 1. AS USED IN THIS  
4     SECTION:

5     (A) "DENTAL SERVICES" SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, DIAGNOSES,  
6     TESTS, STUDIES, TREATMENT OR ANALYSES UNDER THE CARE AND SUPERVISION OF  
7     A LICENSED DENTIST WHO IS AUTHORIZED TO PRACTICE IN THIS STATE. THESE  
8     SERVICES MAY ALSO INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, CLIENT ASSESSMENT,  
9     INFORMATION AND REFERRALS.

10    (B) "ELDERLY" SHALL MEAN AN INDIVIDUAL SIXTY-FIVE YEARS OF AGE OR  
11    OLDER.

12    (C) "DIRECTOR" SHALL MEAN THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING.

13    (D) "COVERAGE PERIOD" SHALL MEAN TWENTY-FOUR CONSECUTIVE CALENDAR  
14    MONTHS FOR WHICH AN ELIGIBLE PROGRAM PARTICIPANT HAS MET THE ELIGIBILITY  
15    REQUIREMENTS OF SUBDIVISION THREE OF THIS SECTION.

16    2. THE DIRECTOR IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED, SUBJECT TO THE  
17    AVAILABILITY OF APPROPRIATIONS, TO ESTABLISH A GRANT PROGRAM FOR DENTAL  
18    SERVICES TO ELIGIBLE ELDERLY PERSONS WHO ARE IN NEED OF SUCH SERVICES.

19    3. PERSONS ELIGIBLE FOR THE GRANT PROGRAM UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL  
20    INCLUDE:

21    (A) ELDERLY UNMARRIED RESIDENTS WHOSE INCOME FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR  
22    IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE COVERAGE PERIOD IS LESS  
23    THAN OR EQUAL TO TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS AND WHO HAVE NO DENTAL INSUR-  
24    ANCE; AND

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

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1 (B) ELDERLY MARRIED RESIDENTS WHOSE COMBINED SPOUSAL INCOME FOR THE  
2 CALENDAR YEAR IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE COVERAGE  
3 PERIOD IS LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO TWENTY-SIX THOUSAND DOLLARS AND WHO HAVE  
4 NO DENTAL INSURANCE.

5 4. THE DIRECTOR SHALL PROMULGATE ANY RULES AND REGULATIONS NECESSARY  
6 TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION WHICH SHALL INCLUDE BUT NOT  
7 BE LIMITED TO:

8 (A) A PROCESS OF DETERMINING AND RE-DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY AT THE END  
9 OF EACH COVERAGE PERIOD FOR RECEIVING SERVICES UNDER THIS GRANT PROGRAM  
10 INCLUDING PROVISIONS FOR SUBMISSION OF PROOF OF INCOME, AGE, AND RESI-  
11 DENCY AND INFORMATION ON EXISTING COMPLETE OR PARTIAL COVERAGE OF DENTAL  
12 EXPENSES UNDER A THIRD PARTY ASSISTANCE OR INSURANCE PLAN;

13 (B) SELECTION OF UP TO SIX GRANT RECIPIENTS THROUGH A REQUEST FOR  
14 PROPOSAL PROCESS INCLUDING DUE CONSIDERATION TO GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION  
15 AND EXISTING NEED FOR DENTAL SERVICES FOR ELDERLY INDIVIDUALS THROUGHOUT  
16 THE STATE WITH PRIORITY GIVEN TO ACCREDITED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS OR  
17 EXISTING DENTAL CLINICS SERVING THE LOW INCOME ELDERLY; AND

18 (C) THE ADMINISTRATION OF SUCH GRANTS, WHICH SHALL BE USED FOR THE  
19 DIRECT PROVISION OF DENTAL CARE AND SERVICES TO THE ELDERLY INCLUDING,  
20 BUT NOT LIMITED TO, DENTAL SERVICES, EQUIPMENT PURCHASES, AND TRAVEL  
21 EXPENSES.

22 5. ADDITIONALLY, THE DIRECTOR SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR,  
23 THE TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY,  
24 PRIOR TO, BUT IN NO EVENT LATER THAN, DECEMBER THIRTY-FIRST, IN THE YEAR  
25 FOLLOWING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION, AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER,  
26 WHICH SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO:

27 (A) FINANCIAL REPORTS OF THE GRANT PROGRAM OPERATIONS ESTABLISHED  
28 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION;

29 (B) AN ANALYSIS OF THE GRANT PROGRAM'S ABILITY TO PROVIDE SUCH DENTAL  
30 SERVICES TO ELIGIBLE ELDERLY PERSONS;

31 (C) RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE CONTINUATION OF SUCH GRANTS AND THE NEED  
32 FOR PROGRAM EXPANSION, IF APPROPRIATE;

33 (D) PROFILES OF THE GRANT RECIPIENTS; AND

34 (E) OTHER INFORMATION DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE DIRECTOR.

35 6. (A) NO APPLICANT FOR A GRANT PROVIDED FOR UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL  
36 KNOWINGLY (I) MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT OR REPRESENTATION CONCERNING A  
37 MATERIAL FACT, (II) SUBMIT FALSE INFORMATION CONCERNING A MATERIAL FACT,  
38 OR (III) CONCEAL A MATERIAL FACT, ON AN APPLICATION TO OBTAIN A GRANT  
39 PROVIDED FOR UNDER THIS SECTION.

40 (B) ANY APPLICANT WHO IS FOUND BY THE DIRECTOR, AFTER NOTICE AND A  
41 HEARING, TO HAVE RECEIVED A GRANT PROVIDED FOR UNDER THIS SECTION BASED  
42 UPON AN APPLICATION WHICH VIOLATED PARAGRAPH (A) OF THIS SUBDIVISION  
43 SHALL BE SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED TWO HUNDRED FIFTY  
44 DOLLARS.

45 S 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall  
46 have become a law; provided, however, that effective immediately, the  
47 addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary  
48 for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized  
49 and directed to be made and completed on or before such effective date.