

# STATE OF NEW YORK

2242

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

January 15, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. SIMON, FORREST, WOERNER -- Multi-Sponsored by --  
M. of A. CONRAD, CUNNINGHAM, DINOWITZ, KELLES, REYES -- read once and  
referred to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to allowing for  
certain disability benefits to continue in the event an individual who  
is receiving such benefits gets married

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assem-  
bly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Clause (iv) of subparagraph 5 of paragraph (a) of subdivi-  
2 sion 1 of section 366 of the social services law, as added by section 1  
3 of part D of chapter 56 of the laws of 2013, is amended to read as  
4 follows:

5 (iv) Married couples. In the case of a married couple living together,  
6 each spouse will be included in the household of the other spouse,  
7 regardless of whether they expect to file a joint tax return under  
8 section six thousand thirteen of the internal revenue code or whether  
9 one spouse expects to be claimed as a tax dependent by the other spouse.  
10 Provided, however, that for purposes of eligibility determination under  
11 subparagraphs five and six of paragraph (c) of this subdivision, a  
12 spouse shall not be included in the household of the other spouse if one  
13 spouse is receiving benefits as an unmarried individual and as a result  
14 of getting married would no longer be eligible to receive such benefits.

15 § 2. Subdivision 12 of section 367-a of the social services law, as  
16 amended by section 42 of part B of chapter 57 of the laws of 2015, is  
17 amended to read as follows:

18 12. (a) Prior to receiving medical assistance under subparagraphs five  
19 and six of paragraph (c) of subdivision one of section three hundred  
20 sixty-six of this title, a person whose net available income is at least  
21 one hundred fifty percent of the applicable federal income official  
22 poverty line, as defined and updated by the United States department of  
23 health and human services, must pay a monthly premium, in accordance

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

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1 with a procedure to be established by the commissioner. The amount of  
2 such premium shall be twenty-five dollars for an individual who is  
3 otherwise eligible for medical assistance under such subparagraphs, and  
4 fifty dollars for a couple, both of whom are otherwise eligible for  
5 medical assistance under such subparagraphs. No premium shall be  
6 required from a person whose net available income is less than one  
7 hundred fifty percent of the applicable federal income official poverty  
8 line, as defined and updated by the United States department of health  
9 and human services.

10 (b) Any unmarried individual who is receiving medical assistance under  
11 subparagraphs five and six of paragraph (c) of subdivision one of  
12 section three hundred sixty-six of this title at the time such unmarried  
13 individual becomes a married individual shall continue to pay the month-  
14 ly premium individual rate, if such unmarried individual marries an  
15 individual who is otherwise not eligible for medical assistance under  
16 such subparagraphs, so long as such individual continues to satisfy the  
17 necessary criteria described in such subparagraphs as if such individual  
18 were an unmarried individual.

19 § 3. The social services law is amended by adding a new section 366-j  
20 to read as follows:

21 § 366-j. Retention of disability benefits for certain married individ-  
22 uals. Notwithstanding any law, rule or regulation to the contrary, any  
23 unmarried individual who is entitled to and currently receiving medical  
24 assistance benefits under this title based on a disability, who would  
25 become ineligible to continue receiving such medical assistance benefits  
26 if such unmarried individual were married, shall remain eligible for  
27 such benefits if such unmarried individual chooses to marry so long as  
28 such individual continues to satisfy the criteria to be eligible for  
29 such benefits as if such individual were an unmarried individual.

30 § 4. This act shall take effect immediately.