

MAR 7 2001

APPROPRIATIONS

HOUSE FILE 548

BY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN
RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 183)

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to an increase in the amount of the minimum
2 community resource allowance to be retained by the spouse of
3 an institutionalized individual under the medical assistance
4 program.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 548

1 Section 1. Section 249A.3, subsection 9, Code 2001, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 9. Beginning October 1, ~~1990~~ 2001, in determining the
4 eligibility of an institutionalized individual for assistance
5 under this chapter, the department shall establish a minimum
6 community spouse resource allowance amount of ~~twenty-four~~
7 forty-eight thousand dollars to be retained for the benefit of
8 the institutionalized individual's community spouse in
9 accordance with the federal Social Security Act, section
10 1924(f) as codified in 42 U.S.C. § 1396r-5(f).

11 EXPLANATION

12 This bill increases the minimum community spouse resource
13 allowance amount to be retained for the benefit of the
14 institutionalized individual's community spouse under the
15 medical assistance program from \$24,000 to \$48,000.

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**HOUSE FILE 548
FISCAL NOTE**

A fiscal note for **House File 548** is hereby submitted pursuant to Joint Rule 17. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau to members of the Legislature upon request.

House File 548 provides an increase in the amount of the minimum community resource allowance to be retained by the spouse of an institutionalized individual under the Medical Assistance Program. The allowance would increase from \$24,000 to \$48,000.

ASSUMPTIONS

1. Increasing the minimum to \$48,000 would allow approximately 24 new eligibles to qualify for the Medical Assistance Program.
2. The new eligibles would qualify for the Medical Assistance Program an average of three months earlier per year due to the change in the minimum community resource allowance from \$24,000 to \$48,000.
3. The average cost per eligible is approximately \$2,800 per month to the Medical Assistance Program.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact of HF 548 will result in a total cost of \$202,000 to the Medical Assistance Program. The State portion of the cost is approximately \$75,000.

SOURCE

Department of Human Services

(LSB 2306hv, SJL)

FILED MARCH 8, 2001

BY DENNIS PROUTY, FISCAL DIRECTOR