

CHAPTER 421

CORRECTIONS

HOUSE BILL 07-1369

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Stafford, Carroll T., Casso, Pommer, Jahn, Levy, Marshall, McFadyen, McGihon, and Todd;
also SENATOR(S) Morse, Bacon, Boyd, Groff, Isgar, Shaffer, Tupa, and Williams.

AN ACT**CONCERNING THE CONTINUATION OF APPLICATION ASSISTANCE FOR INMATES WHO MAY BE ELIGIBLE
FOR CERTAIN PUBLIC BENEFITS UPON RELEASE.**

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. 17-1-113.5 (2), (3), (4) (b), (4) (c), and (5), Colorado Revised Statutes, are amended to read:

17-1-113.5. Inmates held in correctional facilities - medical benefits application assistance - county of residence. (2) ~~On or before January 1, 2003,~~ The department of health care policy and financing shall provide information and training on medical assistance eligibility requirements and assistance to each correctional facility to assist in and expedite the application process for medical assistance for any inmate held in custody who meets the requirements of paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of this section.

(3) ~~On or before January 1, 2003,~~ The department of human services shall provide information and education regarding the supplemental security income systems and processes to each correctional facility.

(4) (b) ~~On or before January 1, 2003,~~ The department of health care policy and financing shall promulgate rules to simplify the processing of applications for medical assistance pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of this section and to allow inmates determined to be eligible for such medical assistance to access the medical assistance upon release and thereafter. If a county department of social services determines that an inmate is eligible for medical assistance, the county shall enroll the inmate in medicaid effective upon release of the inmate. At the time of the inmate's release, the correctional facility shall give the inmate information and paperwork necessary for the inmate to access medical assistance. Such information

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

shall be provided by the applicable county department of social services.

(c) ~~On or before January 1, 2003,~~ The department of corrections shall attempt to enter into prerelease agreements with local social security administration offices, and, if appropriate, the county departments of social services, the department of human services, or the department of health care policy and financing to simplify the processing of applications for medicaid or for supplemental security income to enroll inmates who are eligible for medical assistance pursuant to section 25.5-5-101 (1) (f) or 25.5-5-201 (1) (j), C.R.S., effective upon release and to provide such inmates with the information and paperwork necessary to access medical assistance immediately upon release.

(5) ~~This section is repealed, effective July 1, 2007. Prior to such repeal, the functions of the department of corrections and the department of health care policy and financing in assisting and expediting the application process of an inmate for receipt of medical assistance or supplemental security income prior to release and the function of the department of human services in providing education concerning supplemental security income systems and processes shall be audited by the state auditor. By January 1, 2007, the state auditor shall submit a report to the legislative audit committee containing conclusions and recommendations as to the value and effectiveness of this section.~~

SECTION 2. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Approved: June 1, 2007