

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1694

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE UNSICKER.

4810H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 209.030, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to blind pension asset limits.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 209.030, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 209.030, to read as follows:

209.030. Every adult blind person, eighteen years of age or over, of good moral character who shall have been a resident of the state of Missouri for one year or more next preceding the time of making application for the pension herein provided and every adult blind person eighteen years of age or over who may have lost his or her sight while a bona fide resident of this state and who has been a continuous resident thereof since such loss of sight, shall be entitled to receive, when enrolled under the provisions of sections 209.010 to 209.160, an annual pension as provided for herein, payable in equal monthly installments, provided that no such person shall be entitled to a pension who owns property or has an interest in property to the value of twenty thousand dollars or more, or if married and actually living with husband or wife, if the value of his or her interest in property, together with that of such husband or wife, exceeds said amount; **provided that, any moneys in an individual's ABLE account under sections 209.600 to 209.645 shall be excluded from such asset limit;** provided, further, that in determining the total value of property owned, the real estate occupied by the blind person or spouse as the home, shall be excluded; or who has a sighted spouse resident in this state who upon the investigation of the family support division may be found to be able to provide for the reasonable support of such applicant, or while publicly soliciting alms in any manner or through any artifice in any part of this state; and provided, further, that blind persons who are maintained in private or endowed

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 institutions or who are inmates of a public institution shall not be entitled to the benefits of
19 sections 209.010 to 209.160, except as a patient in a public medical institution; provided,
20 benefits shall not be paid to a blind person under sixty-five years of age, who is a patient in an
21 institution for mental diseases or tuberculosis. In order to comply with federal laws and
22 regulations and state plans in making payments to or on behalf of mentally ill individuals
23 sixty-five years of age, or over, who are patients in a state mental institution, the family support
24 division shall require agreements or other arrangements with the institution to provide a
25 framework for cooperation and to assure that state plan requirements and federal laws and
26 regulations relating to such payment will be observed. In the event the federal laws or
27 regulations will not permit approval of the state plan for benefit payments to or on behalf of an
28 individual who is sixty-five years of age, or over, and is a patient in a state institution for mental
29 diseases, this portion of this section shall be inoperative until approval of a state plan is obtained.

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WITHDRAWN