

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009**

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SENATE BILL 354

Short Title: Social Security Increase/Medicaid Elig. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Kinnaird; Atwater, Berger of Franklin, Foriest, McKissick, Nesbitt,
and Stevens.

Referred to: Health Care.

March 2, 2009

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO
ADOPT A POLICY ALLOWING A CERTAIN INCOME DISREGARD UNDER THE
MEDICAID PROGRAM.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance, shall adopt and implement a policy that will prevent a Medicaid recipient from losing Medicaid eligibility when the annual Social Security and Railroad Retirement Cost of Living Adjustments (COLAs) and the annual Federal Poverty Level adjustment cause a Medicaid recipient to become income-ineligible for Medicaid. The policy shall apply only in cases where Medicaid income eligibility is affected only by Social Security and Railroad Retirement COLAs and Federal Poverty Level adjustments and shall not render a Medicaid recipient eligible if all other eligibility requirements are not met. If approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is required for this policy to be implemented, the Department shall apply to CMS for approval.

SECTION 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 2009.

