

HOME MODIFICATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM STUDY

Prior Law

Iowa currently does not provide grants or individual income tax credits for expenses related to modifying a home to permit a person with a disability to remain in the home.

New Provisions

2015 Iowa Acts Senate File 505 requires the development of a Home Modification and Assistance Plan. The Plan will recommended guidelines for a program to provide grants and individual income tax credits for expenses related to modifying a home to permit a person with a disability to remain in the home. The Aging and Disability Resource Center and the Mental Health and Disability Services Commission will jointly develop the Plan with input from the Department of Revenue and other interested public and private stakeholders. The Plan will:

- Develop criteria and procedures for establishing eligibility of individuals with a disability under the program;
- Establish criteria for determining the type of home modification expenses that will be eligible for a grant or tax credit under the program;
- Develop criteria and procedures for receiving grants and tax credits under the program, including a maximum amount of grants and credits for an individual;
- Provide that an individual with a disability must use all available Medicaid funding before becoming eligible for the home modification assistance program;
- Provide that grants under the program will be available to individuals with a disability with annual incomes that do not exceed 250 percent of the federal poverty level, and that individual income tax credits under the program will be available to individuals with a disability with annual incomes exceeding 250 percent but not exceeding 450 percent of the federal poverty level; and
- Avoid placing unrealistic expectations and overly burdensome requirements on individuals with a disability and their families, particularly in rural areas.

The Plan is due December 15, 2015.

Section Amended

Section 108 of 2015 Iowa Acts Senate File 505 creates session law; that is, it is not codified.

Effective Date

July 2, 2015

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