

# SENATE, No. 3633

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED APRIL 19, 2021

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.**

**District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)**

**Senator PATRICK J. DIEGNAN, JR.**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators A.M.Bucco and Madden**

**SYNOPSIS**

Increases income eligibility limits for PAAD program and Senior Gold Prescription Discount Program by \$10,000.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/10/2021)**

1 AN ACT concerning eligibility for the Pharmaceutical Assistance to  
2 the Aged and Disabled program and amending P.L.1975, c.194.

3  
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6  
7 1. Section 2 of P.L.1975, c.194 (C.30:4D-21) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 2. a. Any resident of this State who is either a recipient of  
10 disability insurance benefits under Title II of the federal Social  
11 Security Act (42 U.S.C. s. 401 et seq.) or 65 years of age and over  
12 and whose annual income is less than **[\$16,624]** \$38,769 if single  
13 or, if married, whose annual income combined with that of his  
14 spouse is less than **[\$20,383]** \$45,270, shall be eligible for  
15 "Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled" if he is not  
16 otherwise qualified for assistance under P.L.1968, c.413 (C.30:4D-1  
17 et seq.). Annual income shall not include gain from the sale of a  
18 principal residence that is excluded from gross income pursuant to  
19 N.J.S.54A:6-9.

20 b. Beginning January 1, 1996 and annually thereafter, the  
21 income eligibility limits provided in subsection a. of this section  
22 shall increase by the amount of the maximum Social Security  
23 benefit cost-of-living increase for that year for single and married  
24 persons, respectively. The commissioner shall adopt the new  
25 income limits annually by regulation pursuant to the  
26 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
27 seq.).

28 (cf: P.L.1995, c.27, s.1)

29  
30 2. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2022, but the  
31 Commissioner of Human Services may take such anticipatory  
32 administrative action in advance as shall be necessary for the  
33 implementation of the act.

#### 34 35 36 STATEMENT

37  
38 This bill increases the income eligibility limits established in the  
39 Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (PAAD) program  
40 to \$38,769 for single persons and \$45,270 combined income for  
41 married couples. Under the Senior Gold Prescription Discount  
42 Program, income eligibility limits are \$10,000 higher than PAAD  
43 income eligibility limits. Therefore, this bill will increase income  
44 eligibility limits under the Senior Gold Prescription Discount program

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is  
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 to \$48,769 for single persons and \$55,270 combined income for  
2 married couples.

3 Currently, the PAAD income limits for 2021 are \$28,769 for single  
4 persons and \$35,270 combined income for married couples. Although  
5 the PAAD law states that income eligibility limits are \$16,624 and  
6 \$20,383 for single persons and married couples, respectively, an  
7 annual cost-of-living increase in income eligibility limits was adopted  
8 effective January 1, 1996, which has increased these eligibility levels  
9 each year. This bill retains the annual cost-of-living increase, but raises  
10 the overall income eligibility levels for the program, effective January  
11 1, 2022.