

**April 2026
NABWIS NEWS
#13**



SSI Restoration Act Introduced in 119th Congress

On March 5, 2026, Senator Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts introduced the Supplemental Security Income Restoration Act of 2026 (S.4001) in the 119 Congress. Similar bills have been introduced before, but have not received the needed support to even be brought to a vote. This bill, if passed and signed into law, would:

- Increase the SSI payment to at least 100% of the FPL.
- Increase the resource limit to \$10,000 per individual and \$20,000 per couple.
- Increase the earned income exclusion (EIE) to \$512.
- Eliminate the marriage penalty by allowing each member of a married couple to receive the full FBR (before any deductions for wages or in-kind support) rather than one reduced couple's rate check.
- Expand SSI eligibility to qualified individuals residing in U.S. territories.

NABWIS is drafting a letter of support, which our membership can customize and send to their elected officials if they choose to do so. For more information, please see:

[Text - S.4001 - 119th Congress \(2025-2026\): Supplemental Security Income Restoration Act of 2026 | Congress.gov | Library of Congress.](#)

Find your elected officials at [Find Your Representative | house.gov.](#)

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

SSI Restoration Act
Introduced in 119
Congress

Medicaid Buy-In Cap
Eliminated

NABWIS Policy Committee
Tracking HR 1 Changes

Medicaid Buy-In Age Cap Eliminated

On February 3, 2026, the President signed a \$1.2 trillion funding bill, ending a partial government shutdown. As part of that bill, the Ensuring Access to Medicaid Buy-In Programs Act (H.R. 1598) was folded in. This effectively prevents working individuals with disabilities who utilize buy-in coverage from losing it once they reach age 65. Once implemented, buy-in

NABWIS Tracking State Implementation of H.R. 1 Changes

As advertised in previous issues of the newsletter and in previous eblasts, NABWIS is tracking state implementation of changes related to the passage of H.R. 1 (The Big Bill). While states must comply with these changes based on federal statute, they do have flexibility to

coverage can continue indefinitely, as long as the participant continues to have a disability and meets their state's financial and nonfinancial criteria.

Benefits planners should check with their state Medicaid agencies for further information and implementation timelines.

States have until January 1st, 2028, to fully implement this, but some states may choose to implement it sooner.

Until fully implemented in your state, the age limit will continue to be age 64, so planners should verify with their Medicaid agencies on timelines before providing beneficiaries with guidance on this. For more information, see:

[President Trump Signs Package, Includes Ciscomani Medicaid Access Bill | Representative Ciscomani](#)

determine when the work requirements will begin for the Medicaid expansion group if they're implemented by January 1, 2027, and how the states will determine and verify disability exemptions for individuals receiving services under Medicaid expansion and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Not all states have Medicaid expansion groups, and certain U.S. territories are exempt from instituting Medicaid and SNAP work requirements because they operate their own programs and do not receive federal funding. Some states have already instituted the work requirements, while others have yet to do so. It's critical that benefits planners understand the timelines and guidelines within their individual states. Some states have already released guidance on how they're going to verify a participant's disability for exemption purposes if they're NOT already receiving SSA benefits, but others have not.

To help our membership track changes, we have developed a spreadsheet that's available in the members-only section of the website.

The NABWIS policy committee will check monthly for updates and update the sheet accordingly so that it remains current

https://www.nabwis.org/policy_updates_why_it_matter.php

A Message from the NABWIS Board

The NABWIS newsletter is geared toward keeping our members apprised on updates pertaining to federal Social Security benefits, legislative changes, and ways you can partner with the NABWIS board to help inspire change for the individuals we serve.

Please help us keep the information current by emailing any updates to policy@nabwis.org, and include a reference to your source material.



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