

**Second Regular Session  
Sixty-eighth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**PREAMENDED**

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee  
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 12-0873.01 Jerry Barry

**HOUSE BILL 12-1326**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Acree and Kefalas,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**(None),**

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**House Committees**

Finance  
Appropriations

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY, AND, IN CONNECTION**  
102 **THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)*

The Colorado constitution specifies that the award under the old age pension program shall be \$100 per month and authorizes the state board of human services (state board) to adjust the award to more than \$100 per month if living costs have changed. The state board has adopted rules that set the monthly standard assistance at \$699. The bill encourages

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

the state board to raise the monthly standard assistance for the old age pension to \$725.

There is currently in statute a program for dental care for persons eligible for the old age pension, but moneys have not been appropriated to pay for the program. The bill expands the program to cover persons 60 years of age or older with a family income that does not exceed 135% of the federal poverty level. The bill appropriates money for the program.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly  
3 hereby finds and declares:

4 (a) Section 6 of article XXIV of the state constitution establishes  
5 the basic minimum award under the old age pension program at one  
6 hundred dollars per month, but authorizes the state board of human  
7 services to increase the award over one hundred dollars per month if  
8 "living costs have changed sufficiently to justify that action".

9 (b) The state board of human services has set the standard  
10 allowance under the old age pension program at six hundred ninety-nine  
11 dollars per month, but this amount has not increased in three years.

12 (2) The general assembly encourages the state board of human  
13 services to increase the amount of the standard allowance for the old age  
14 pension to seven hundred twenty-five dollars per month effective July 1,  
15 2012.

16 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-21-103, **amend**  
17 (3) as follows:

18 **25-21-103. Definitions.** As used in this article, unless the context  
19 otherwise requires:

20 (3) "Eligible senior" means an adult who:

21 (a) Is sixty years of age or older; and

22 (b) (I) Is eligible for old age pension assistance as defined in

1 section 26-2-111 (2), C.R.S; OR

2 (II) IS ELIGIBLE FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PURSUANT TO SECTION  
3 25.5-5-101 (1) (I), C.R.S., BUT IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR LONG-TERM CARE  
4 SERVICES PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 6 OF TITLE 25.5, C.R.S.

5 **SECTION 3. Appropriation.** In addition to any other  
6 appropriation, there is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the  
7 general fund not otherwise appropriated, to the department of public  
8 health and environment, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012, the  
9 sum of \$3,022,800, or so much thereof as may be necessary, related to the  
10 implementation of section 2 of this act.

11 **SECTION 4. Continuous appropriation - adjustments in 2012**  
12 **long bill.** In the annual general appropriations act, for the fiscal year  
13 beginning July 1, 2012, the amount that represents an estimate of  
14 expenditures by the department of human services from the old age  
15 pension cash fund for old age pension cash assistance programs pursuant  
16 to section 1 of article XXIV of the state constitution is increased by  
17 \$6,695,581. This amount is subject to the (I) notation included in the  
18 annual general appropriations act. Although these funds are not  
19 appropriated in this act, they are noted for the purpose of indicating  
20 assumed expenditures that may be authorized by the state board of human  
21 services as encouraged pursuant to section 1 of this act.

22 **SECTION 5. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
23 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
24 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.