

FINAL BILL REPORT

HB 2585

C 75 L 14
Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Concerning income eligibility for temporary assistance for needy families benefits for a child.

Sponsors: Representatives Walsh and Pettigrew; by request of Department of Social and Health Services.

House Committee on Early Learning & Human Services
House Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Health & Human Services
Senate Committee on Human Services & Corrections
Senate Committee on Ways & Means

Background:

In 2011 the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) was required to establish income eligibility rules for nonparental caregivers receiving a child-only Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) grant. A caregiver with an income above 300 percent of the federal poverty level is not eligible for child-only TANF benefits for a child residing with a caregiver who is not a foster child. In 2012 300 percent of the federal poverty level for a family of three was \$58,590.

The DSHS only counts 50 percent of an individual's gross earned income to determine eligibility and benefit level.

Summary:

The DSHS may exempt 50 percent of a caregivers unearned income when determining TANF eligibility and benefit standards for a child, who is not a foster child, who is residing with a caregiver other than his or her parents. Unearned income is defined as income received from a source other than employment or self-employment.

Votes on Final Passage:

House	97	0
Senate	48	0

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Effective: June 12, 2014