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HOUSE BILL 2476

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By Representatives Boldt, Mulliken, Stevens, Beeksma, Cooke and Goldsmith

Read first time 01/11/96. Referred to Committee on Children & Family Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring a determination of paternity for  
2 receiving certain benefits; amending RCW 74.12.035; and declaring an  
3 emergency.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.12.035 and 1985 c 335 s 1 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 (1) A family or assistance unit is not eligible for aid for any  
8 month if for that month the total income of the family or assistance  
9 unit, without application of income disregards, exceeds one hundred  
10 eighty-five percent of the state standard of need for a family of the  
11 same composition: PROVIDED, That for the purposes of determining the  
12 total income of the family or assistance unit, the earned income of a  
13 dependent child who is a full-time student for whom aid to families  
14 with dependent children is being provided shall be disregarded for six  
15 months per calendar year.

16 (2) Participation in a strike does not constitute good cause to  
17 leave or to refuse to seek or accept employment. Assistance is not  
18 payable to a family for any month in which any caretaker relative with  
19 whom the child is living is, on the last day of the month,

1 participating in a strike. An individual's need shall not be included  
2 in determining the amount of aid payable for any month to a family or  
3 assistance unit if, on the last day of the month, the individual is  
4 participating in a strike.

5 (3) Children over eighteen years of age and under nineteen years of  
6 age who are full-time students reasonably expected to complete a  
7 program of secondary school, or the equivalent level of vocational or  
8 technical training, before reaching nineteen years of age are eligible  
9 to receive aid to families with dependent children: PROVIDED HOWEVER,  
10 That if such students do not successfully complete such program before  
11 reaching nineteen years of age, the assistance rendered under this  
12 subsection during such period shall not be a debt due the state.

13 (4) An applicant for aid to families with dependent children shall  
14 assist the office of support enforcement in determining the paternity  
15 of all children in the assistance unit. This will include providing  
16 the office with relevant information reasonably known to, possessed by,  
17 or obtainable by the applicant about the absent parent. If an  
18 applicant is unsure of the paternity of the child or children, she  
19 shall provide the names of males who are most likely the father of the  
20 child or children. Failure to cooperate with the office of support  
21 enforcement shall cause assistance to be denied.

22 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. This act is necessary for the immediate  
23 preservation of the public peace, health, morals, or safety, or support  
24 of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall  
25 take effect immediately.

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