
SENATE BILL 5816

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senators Hochstatter, Wood, Schow, Moyer, Deccio, Long, Strannigan, McCaslin, West, A. Anderson and Oke

Read first time 02/07/95. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to public assistance; amending RCW 74.08.025;
2 creating new sections; providing an effective date; providing a
3 contingent expiration date; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.08.025 and 1981 1st ex.s. c 6 s 9 are each amended
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) Public assistance shall be awarded to any applicant:

8 ~~((+1))~~ (a) Who is in need and otherwise meets the eligibility
9 requirements of department assistance programs; and

10 ~~((+2))~~ (b) Who has not made a voluntary assignment of property or
11 cash for the purpose of qualifying for an assistance grant; and

12 ~~((+3))~~ (c) Who is not an inmate of a public institution except as
13 a patient in a medical institution or except as an inmate in a public
14 institution who could qualify for federal aid assistance: PROVIDED,
15 That the assistance paid by the department to recipients in nursing
16 homes, or receiving nursing home care, may cover the cost of clothing
17 and incidentals and general maintenance exclusive of medical care and
18 health services. The department may pay a grant to cover the cost of
19 clothing and personal incidentals in public or private medical

1 institutions and institutions for tuberculosis. The department shall
2 allow recipients in nursing homes to retain, in addition to the grant
3 to cover the cost of clothing and incidentals, wages received for work
4 as a part of a training or rehabilitative program designed to prepare
5 the recipient for less restrictive placement to the extent permitted
6 under Title XIX of the federal social security act.

7 (2) For any person otherwise qualified to receive public assistance
8 under this title who has resided in the state of Washington for fewer
9 than twelve continuous months immediately preceding receipt of any
10 public assistance under this title, any public assistance received is
11 limited to levels or amounts of assistance the person would have
12 received from a similar program in the state where the person most
13 recently had an established residence before moving to Washington, if
14 the public assistance is lower than that provided to similarly situated
15 families in Washington.

16 (3) The department shall conduct a periodic survey of the other
17 states to determine their public assistance levels for programs similar
18 to those in the state of Washington, and shall by rule adopt a scale of
19 public assistance limits based on state of origin.

20 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. The governor and the department of social
21 and health services shall seek all necessary exemptions and waivers
22 from and amendments to federal statutes, rules, and regulations and
23 shall report to the appropriate committees in the house of
24 representatives and senate quarterly on the efforts to secure the
25 federal changes to permit full implementation of section 1 of this act
26 at the earliest possible date.

27 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. In the event that the department of social
28 and health services is not able to obtain the necessary exemptions,
29 waivers, or amendments referred to in section 2 of this act before
30 January 1, 1998, this act shall expire on that date and shall have no
31 further force or effect.

32 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. If any part of this act is found to be in
33 conflict with federal requirements that are a prescribed condition to
34 the allocation of federal funds to the state, the conflicting part of
35 this act is inoperative solely to the extent of the conflict and with
36 respect to the agencies directly affected, and this finding does not

1 affect the operation of the remainder of this act in its application to
2 the agencies concerned. The rules under this act shall meet federal
3 requirements that are a necessary condition to the receipt of federal
4 funds by the state.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate
6 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
7 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take
8 effect July 1, 1995.

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