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SENATE BILL 5299

State of Washington 56th Legislature 1999 Regular Session

By Senators Fairley, Kohl-Welles, Kline and Wojahn

Read first time 01/19/1999. Referred to Committee on Labor & Workforce Development.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to the residency requirement for recipients of
- 2 temporary assistance for needy families; and amending RCW 74.08.025.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.08.025 and 1997 c 58 s 101 are each amended to read 5 as follows:
 - (1) Public assistance may be awarded to any applicant:

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- 7 (a) Who is in need and otherwise meets the eligibility requirements 8 of department assistance programs; and
- 9 (b) Who has not made a voluntary assignment of property or cash for 10 the purpose of qualifying for an assistance grant; and
- 11 (c) Who is not an inmate of a public institution except as a
- 12 patient in a medical institution or except as an inmate in a public
- 13 institution who could qualify for federal aid assistance: PROVIDED,
- 14 That the assistance paid by the department to recipients in nursing
- 15 homes, or receiving nursing home care, may cover the cost of clothing
- 16 and incidentals and general maintenance exclusive of medical care and
- 17 health services. The department may pay a grant to cover the cost of
- 18 clothing and personal incidentals in public or private medical
- 19 institutions and institutions for tuberculosis. The department shall

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

(2) ((Any person otherwise qualified for temporary assistance for needy families under this title who has resided in the state of Washington for fewer than twelve consecutive months immediately preceding application for assistance is limited to the benefit level in the state in which the person resided immediately before Washington, using the eligibility rules and other definitions established under this chapter, that was obtainable on the date of application in Washington state, if the benefit level of the prior state is lower than the level provided to similarly situated applicants in Washington state. The benefit level under this subsection shall be in effect for the first twelve months a recipient is on temporary assistance for needy families in Washington state.

(3)) Any person otherwise qualified for temporary assistance for needy families who is assessed through the state alcohol and substance abuse program as drug or alcohol-dependent and requiring treatment to become employable shall be required by the department to participate in a drug or alcohol treatment program as a condition of benefit receipt.

((+4)) (3) In order to be eligible for temporary assistance for needy families and food stamp program benefits, any applicant with a felony conviction after August 21, 1996, involving drug use or possession, must: (a) Have been assessed as chemically dependent by a chemical dependency program approved under chapter 70.96A RCW and be participating in or have completed a coordinated rehabilitation plan consisting of chemical dependency treatment and vocational services; and (b) have not been convicted of a felony involving drug use or possession in the three years prior to the most current conviction.

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