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## Appropriations Committee

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### HB 2252

**Brief Description:** Revising eligibility requirements for general assistance.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Sommers and Fromhold.

#### Brief Summary of Bill

- Requires the Department of Social and Health Services to discontinue benefits to General Assistance - Unemployable recipients unless the recipient demonstrates no material improvement in his or her medical or mental condition at the incapacity review.

**Hearing Date:**

**Staff:** Heather Flodstrom (786-7391).

#### Background:

General Assistance - Unemployable (GA-U) benefits are provided to people who are temporarily disabled and as a result cannot work. To be eligible for these benefits, a client must undergo an incapacity review that proves the client temporarily disabled by a medical or mental condition. After a client is determined eligible for GA-U benefits, the client is required to have periodic incapacity reviews to ensure continued eligibility for the program.

Current law prohibits the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) from terminating a GA-U recipient's benefits unless there is a clear showing of material improvement in the recipient's medical or mental condition at the incapacity review.

#### Summary of Bill:

The DSHS is required to discontinue benefits to GA-U recipients unless the recipient demonstrates no material improvement in his or her medical or mental condition at the incapacity review.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.