

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5214**

Chapter 239, Laws of 2021

67th Legislature  
2021 Regular Session

TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES—TIME LIMIT

EFFECTIVE DATE: Contingent.

Passed by the Senate April 19, 2021  
Yeas 31 Nays 18

DENNY HECK

**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House April 6, 2021  
Yeas 85 Nays 13

Laurie Jinkins

**Speaker of the House of  
Representatives**

Approved May 10, 2021 3:35 PM

JAY INSLEE

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5214** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

BRAD HENDRICKSON

**Secretary**

FILED

May 10, 2021

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5214**

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AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2021 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      67th Legislature                      2021 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Nguyen, Dhingra, Darneille, Das, Frockt, Hasegawa, Hunt, Kuderer, Lias, Lovelett, Nobles, Robinson, Stanford, and Wilson, C.)

READ FIRST TIME 02/22/21.

1            AN ACT Relating to economic assistance programs; amending RCW  
2 74.08A.010; adding a new section to chapter 74.08A RCW; creating a  
3 new section; and providing a contingent effective date.

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

5            **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.08A.010 and 2020 c 320 s 1 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7            (1) A family that includes an adult who has received temporary  
8 assistance for needy families for sixty months after July 27, 1997,  
9 shall be ineligible for further temporary assistance for needy  
10 families assistance.

11            (2) For the purposes of applying the rules of this section, the  
12 department shall count any month in which an adult family member  
13 received a temporary assistance for needy families cash assistance  
14 grant unless the assistance was provided when the adult family member  
15 was a minor child and not the head of the household or married to the  
16 head of the household.

17            (3) The department shall adopt regulations to apply the sixty-  
18 month time limit to households in which a parent is in the home and  
19 ineligible for temporary assistance for needy families. Any  
20 regulations shall be consistent with federal funding requirements.

1 (4) The department shall refer recipients who require specialized  
2 assistance to appropriate department programs, crime victims'  
3 programs through the department of commerce, or the crime victims'  
4 compensation program of the department of labor and industries.

5 (5) (a) The department shall add to adopted rules related to  
6 temporary assistance for needy families time limit extensions, the  
7 following criteria by which the department shall exempt a recipient  
8 and the recipient's family from the application of subsection (1) of  
9 this section:

10 (i) By reason of hardship, including when (~~the~~):

11 (A) The recipient's family includes a child or youth who is  
12 without a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence as  
13 described in the federal McKinney-Vento homeless assistance act  
14 (Title 42 U.S.C., chapter 119, subchapter VI, part B) as it existed  
15 on January 1, 2020; or

16 (B) The recipient received temporary assistance for needy  
17 families during a month on or after March 1, 2020, when Washington  
18 state's unemployment rate as published by the Washington employment  
19 security department was equal to or greater than seven percent, and  
20 the recipient is otherwise eligible for temporary assistance for  
21 needy families except that they have exceeded 60 months. The  
22 extension provided for under this subsection (5) (a) (i) (B) is equal to  
23 the number of months that the recipient received temporary assistance  
24 for needy families during a month after March 1, 2020, when the  
25 unemployment rate was equal to or greater than seven percent, and is  
26 applied sequentially to any other hardship extensions that may apply  
27 under this subsection (5) or in rule; or

28 (ii) If the family includes an individual who meets the family  
29 violence options of section 402(A)(7) of Title IVA of the federal  
30 social security act as amended by P.L. 104-193.

31 (b) Policies related to circumstances under which a recipient  
32 will be exempted from the application of subsection (1) or (3) of  
33 this section shall treat adults receiving benefits on their own  
34 behalf, and parents receiving benefits on behalf of their child  
35 similarly, unless required otherwise under federal law.

36 (6) The department shall not exempt a recipient and his or her  
37 family from the application of subsection (1) or (3) of this section  
38 until after the recipient has received fifty-two months of assistance  
39 under this chapter.

1 (7) The department shall provide transitional food assistance for  
2 a period of five months to a household that ceases to receive  
3 temporary assistance for needy families assistance and is not in  
4 sanction status. If necessary, the department shall extend the  
5 household's basic food certification until the end of the transition  
6 period.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** If any part of this act is found to be in  
8 conflict with federal requirements that are a prescribed condition to  
9 the allocation of federal funds to the state, the conflicting part of  
10 this act is inoperative solely to the extent of the conflict and with  
11 respect to the agencies directly affected, and this finding does not  
12 affect the operation of the remainder of this act in its application  
13 to the agencies concerned. Rules adopted under this act must meet  
14 federal requirements that are a necessary condition to the receipt of  
15 federal funds by the state.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 74.08A  
17 RCW to read as follows:

18 All families who have received temporary assistance for needy  
19 families since March 1, 2020, are eligible for the extension under  
20 RCW 74.08A.010(5)(a)(i)(B), regardless of whether they are current  
21 recipients. Eligible families shall only receive temporary assistance  
22 for needy families benefits that accrue after the effective date of  
23 this act.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act takes effect July 1, 2023, only  
25 if specific funding for extending the 60-month time limit through the  
26 2021-2023 biennium, is provided by June 30, 2021, in the omnibus  
27 appropriations act. If specific funding for extending the 60-month  
28 time limit through the 2021-2023 biennium is not provided by June 30,  
29 2021, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act takes effect 90  
30 days after final adjournment of the legislative session in which it  
31 is enacted.

Passed by the Senate April 19, 2021.  
Passed by the House April 6, 2021.  
Approved by the Governor May 10, 2021.  
Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 10, 2021.

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