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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 **"PART I - TIME LIMITS ON PUBLIC ASSISTANCE**

8 **Sec. 101.** RCW 74.12.420 and 1994 c 299 s 9 are each amended to
9 read as follows:

10 The legislature recognizes that long-term recipients of aid to
11 families with dependent children may require a period of several years
12 to attain economic self-sufficiency. To provide incentives for long-
13 term recipients to leave public assistance and accept paid employment,
14 the legislature finds that less punitive and onerous sanctions than
15 those required by the federal government are appropriate. The
16 legislature finds that a ten percent reduction in grants for long-term
17 recipients that may be replaced through earned income is a more
18 positive approach than sanctions required by the federal government for
19 long-term recipients who fail to comply with requirements of the job
20 opportunities and basic skills program. A long-term recipient shall
21 not be subject to two simultaneous sanctions for failure to comply with
22 the participation requirements of the job opportunities and basic
23 skills program and for exceeding the length of stay provisions of this
24 section.

25 (1) After ~~((forty-eight))~~ twenty-four monthly benefit payments in
26 ~~((a))~~ the preceding sixty-month period, and after each of three
27 additional twelve monthly benefit payments, the aid to families with
28 dependent children monthly benefit payment shall be reduced by ten
29 percent of the payment standard~~((, except that))~~. After seventy-two
30 full or partial monthly benefit payments, a recipient is ineligible for
31 monthly benefit payments for two years. After ~~((forty-eight))~~ thirty-
32 six monthly payments in ~~((a))~~ the preceding sixty-month period, full
33 monthly benefit payments may be made if:

34 (a) The person is incapacitated or is needed in the home to care
35 for a member of the household who is incapacitated;

1 (b) The person is needed in the home to care for a child who is
2 under three years of age;

3 (c) There are no adults in the assistance unit;

4 (d) The person is ~~((cooperating in the development and~~
5 ~~implementation of an employability plan))~~ actively participating in the
6 job opportunities and basic skills training program while receiving aid
7 to families with dependent children and no present full-time, part-
8 time, or unpaid work experience job is offered; ~~((or))~~

9 (e) During a month in which a grant reduction would be imposed
10 under this section, the person is participating in an unpaid work
11 experience program;

12 (f) Child care is not made available by the department; or

13 (g) The person was not offered services by the job opportunities
14 and basic skills program at least six months before the benefit
15 reduction.

16 ~~(2) ((For purposes of determining the amount of the food stamp~~
17 ~~benefit for recipients subject to benefit reductions provided for in~~
18 ~~subsection (1) of this section, countable income from the aid to~~
19 ~~families with dependent children program shall be set at the payment~~
20 ~~standard.~~

21 ~~(3))~~ For purposes of determining monthly benefit payments for two-
22 parent aid to families with dependent children households, the length
23 of stay criterion will be applied to the parent with the longer history
24 of public assistance receipt.

25 NEW SECTION. Sec. 102. A new section is added to chapter 74.12
26 RCW to read as follows:

27 A recipient's length of stay shall be determined based on actual
28 months of receipt of public assistance, including months of receipt of
29 public assistance before the effective date of this section. Benefits
30 shall not be reduced under this section before July 1, 1996.

31 NEW SECTION. Sec. 103. A new section is added to chapter 74.12
32 RCW to read as follows:

33 A family receiving or applying for assistance under the aid to
34 families with dependent children program shall enter into a contract
35 satisfying the requirements of this section. The contract shall be
36 entered into by the department of social and health services and the
37 recipient on a form prescribed by the department. The contract shall

1 include a list of available benefits to which the family is eligible,
2 a summary of the responsibilities the recipient must accept, and
3 related conditions of benefits, including time limits and benefit
4 reductions.

5 **PART II - REQUIRING MANDATORY PARTICIPATION**
6 **IN THE JOB OPPORTUNITIES AND BASIC SKILLS PROGRAM**

7 **Sec. 201.** RCW 74.25.020 and 1993 c 312 s 7 are each amended to
8 read as follows:

9 (1) The department of social and health services is authorized to
10 contract with public and private employment and training agencies and
11 other public service entities to provide services prescribed or allowed
12 under the federal social security act, as amended, to carry out the
13 purposes of the jobs training program. The department of social and
14 health services has sole authority and responsibility to carry out the
15 job opportunities and basic skills training program. No contracting
16 entity shall have the authority to review, change, or disapprove any
17 administrative decision, or otherwise substitute its judgment for that
18 of the department of social and health services as to the application
19 of policies and rules adopted by the department of social and health
20 services.

21 ~~(2) ((To the extent feasible under federal law, the department of~~
22 ~~social and health services and all entities contracting with it shall~~
23 ~~give first priority of service to individuals volunteering for program~~
24 ~~participation))~~ The department of social and health services shall
25 develop a realistic schedule for the phase-in of client participation
26 in the job opportunities and basic skills training program based on the
27 availability of state and federal funding.

28 (3) The department of social and health services shall adopt rules
29 under chapter 34.05 RCW ~~((establishing))~~ that conform to the criteria
30 in federal law for mandatory program participation as well as establish
31 criteria constituting circumstances of good cause for an individual
32 failing or refusing to participate in an assigned program component, or
33 failing or refusing to accept or retain employment. ((These)) The good
34 cause criteria shall include, but not be limited to, the following
35 circumstances: (a) If the individual is a parent or other relative
36 personally providing care for a child under age ~~((six))~~ three years,
37 and the employment would require the individual to work more than

1 twenty hours per week; (b) if child care, or day care for an
2 incapacitated individual living in the same home as a dependent child,
3 is necessary for an individual to participate or continue participation
4 in the program or accept employment, and such care is not available,
5 and the department of social and health services fails to provide such
6 care; (c) the employment would result in the family of the participant
7 experiencing a net loss of cash income; or (d) circumstances that are
8 beyond the control of the individual's household, either on a short-
9 term or on an ongoing basis.

10 ~~((4))~~ (3) The department of social and health services shall
11 adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW as necessary to effectuate the
12 intent and purpose of this chapter.

13 **PART III - MISCELLANEOUS**

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 301.** A new section is added to chapter 74.12
15 RCW to read as follows:

16 The provision that recipients of aid to families with dependent
17 children may earn and keep the first thirty dollars and one-third of
18 the remaining amount earned without having their monthly benefit
19 payment reduced by that amount may be extended up to a twelve-month
20 period.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 302.** A new section is added to chapter 74.12
22 RCW to read as follows:

23 The department shall take all reasonable steps to determine the
24 identity of the noncustodial parent. The department shall cooperate
25 with licensed health care providers, prosecuting attorneys, and other
26 interested parties to determine the noncustodial parent's identity.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 303.** A new section is added to chapter 74.04
28 RCW to read as follows:

29 The department shall reduce the fraudulent receipt of public
30 assistance through the implementation of an electronic benefit transfer
31 system for all public assistance programs. The department shall also
32 establish new verification requirements and fraud deterrence and
33 detection systems for all public assistance programs.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 304.** Any savings resulting from the provisions

1 of this act during the 1995-97 biennium shall be used to provide
2 employment child care subsidies for low-income working families who
3 have never received public assistance from the state of Washington
4 under Title 74 RCW.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 305.** Part headings as used in this act do not
6 constitute any part of the law.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 306.** 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 to
13 the agencies concerned. The rules under this act shall meet federal
14 requirements that are a necessary condition to the receipt of federal
15 funds by the state.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 307.** If any provision of this act or its
17 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
18 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
19 persons or circumstances is not affected."

20 **2SHB 1481** - H AMD

21 By Representatives Sommers, Grant, and Thibaudeau

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23 On page 1, line 4 of the title, after "benefits;" strike the
24 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 74.12.420 and
25 74.25.020; adding new sections to chapter 74.12 RCW; adding a new
26 section to chapter 74.04 RCW; and creating new sections."

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