
ENGROSSED SENATE BILL 6098

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Senator West

Read first time 04/10/97. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 AN ACT Relating to human services; adding new sections to chapter
2 74.-- RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** IMMIGRANTS--ELIGIBILITY. The state shall
5 exercise its option under P.L. 104-193 to continue services to legal
6 immigrants under temporary assistance for needy families, medicaid, and
7 social services block grant programs. Eligibility for these benefits
8 for legal immigrants arriving after August 21, 1996, is limited to
9 those families where the parent, parents, or legal guardians have been
10 in residence in Washington state for a period of twelve consecutive
11 months before making their application for assistance. Legal
12 immigrants who lose benefits under the supplemental security income
13 program as a result of P.L. 104-193 are immediately eligible for
14 benefits under the state's general assistance-unemployable program.
15 The department shall redetermine income and resource eligibility at
16 least annually, in accordance with existing state policy.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** SPONSOR DEEMING. (1) Except as provided in
18 subsection (4) of this section, qualified aliens and aliens permanently

1 residing under color of law shall have their eligibility for assistance
2 redetermined.

3 (2) In determining the eligibility and the amount of benefits of a
4 qualified alien or an alien permanently residing under color of law for
5 public assistance under this title, the income and resources of the
6 alien shall be deemed to include the income and resources of any person
7 and his or her spouse who executed an affidavit of support pursuant to
8 section 213A of the federal immigration and naturalization act on
9 behalf of the alien for a period of five years following the execution
10 of that affidavit of support. The deeming provisions of this
11 subsection shall be waived if the sponsor dies or is permanently
12 incapacitated during the period the affidavit of support is valid.

13 (3) As used in this section, "qualified alien" has the meaning
14 provided it in P.L. 104-183.

15 (4)(a) Qualified aliens specified under sections 403, 412, and 552
16 (e) and (f), subtitle B, Title IV, of P.L. 104-193 and in P.L. 104-208,
17 are exempt from this section.

18 (b) Qualified aliens who served in the armed forces of an allied
19 country, or were employed by an agency of the federal government,
20 during a military conflict between the United States of America and a
21 military adversary are exempt from the provisions of this section.

22 (c) Qualified aliens who are victims of domestic violence and
23 petition for legal status under the federal violence against women act
24 are exempt from the provisions of this section.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3. FOOD ASSISTANCE.** (1) The department may
26 establish a food assistance program for persons whose immigrant status
27 meets the eligibility requirements of the federal food stamp program,
28 but who are no longer eligible solely due to their immigrant status
29 under P.L. 104-193.

30 (2) The rules for the state food assistance program shall follow
31 exactly the rules of the federal food stamp program except for the
32 provisions pertaining to immigrant status under P.L. 104-193.

33 (3) The benefit under the state food assistance program shall be
34 established by the legislature in the biennial operating budget.

35 (4) The department may enter into a contract with the United States
36 department of agriculture to use the existing federal food stamp
37 program coupon system for the purposes of administering the state food
38 assistance program.

1 (5) In the event the department is unable to enter into a contract
2 with the United States department of agriculture, the department may
3 issue vouchers to eligible households for the purchase of eligible
4 foods at participating retailers.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** CAPTIONS NOT LAW. Captions used in this act
6 are not any part of the law.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 1 through 3 of this act are each
8 added to the chapter created in section 1010, chapter . . . (Engrossed
9 House Bill No. 3901), Laws of 1997.

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