

2 **HB 1936** - S COMM AMD

3 By Committee on Labor & Workforce Development

4 ADOPTED 4/7/99

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

7 "Sec. 1. RCW 74.08A.010 and 1997 c 58 s 103 are each amended to
8 read as follows:

9 (1) A family that includes an adult who has received temporary
10 assistance for needy families for sixty months after July 27, 1997,
11 shall be ineligible for further temporary assistance for needy families
12 assistance. The number of recipients exempted or deferred from the
13 time limit in this subsection shall not exceed twenty percent of the
14 temporary assistance for needy families caseload.

15 (2) For the purposes of applying the rules of this section, the
16 department shall count any month in which an adult family member
17 received a temporary assistance for needy families cash assistance
18 grant unless the assistance was provided when the family member was a
19 minor child and not the head of the household or married to the head of
20 the household or the recipient received a deferral under section 2 of
21 this act.

22 (3) The department shall refer recipients who require specialized
23 assistance to appropriate department programs, crime victims' programs
24 through the department of community, trade, and economic development,
25 or the crime victims' compensation program of the department of labor
26 and industries.

27 (4) The department may exempt a recipient and the recipient's
28 family from the application of subsection (1) of this section by reason
29 of hardship or if the recipient meets the family violence options of
30 section 402(A)(7) of Title IVA of the federal social security act as
31 amended by P.L. 104-193. ~~((The number of recipients and their families~~
32 ~~exempted from subsection (1) of this section for a fiscal year shall~~
33 ~~not exceed twenty percent of the average monthly number of recipients~~
34 ~~and their families to which assistance is provided under the temporary~~
35 ~~assistance for needy families program.~~

1 ~~(5) The department shall not exempt a recipient and his or her~~
2 ~~family from the application of subsection (1) of this section until~~
3 ~~after the recipient has received fifty two months of assistance under~~
4 ~~this chapter.))~~

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 74.08A RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) Each recipient approved to receive temporary assistance for
8 needy families shall be subject to an employability screen as a
9 condition of eligibility. If the employability screen determines the
10 recipient meets the criteria specified in RCW 74.08A.270 for a good
11 cause exemption to work requirements the department shall defer the
12 work requirement under RCW 74.08A.260, as long as the condition of the
13 recipient that causes him or her to meet the exemption criteria exists.
14 When the condition ceases to exist, the exemption terminates.

15 (2) All recipients not deferred shall be placed in the job search
16 component. Failure to participate in the job search component shall
17 result in sanctions as provided in RCW 74.08A.260. If a recipient
18 fails to find employment during the job search component, the
19 department may refer the recipient to those work activities that are
20 directly related to improving the recipient's employability.

21 (3) The department shall adopt rules providing for the review of
22 recipients granted deferrals under this section.

23 **Sec. 3.** RCW 74.08A.260 and 1997 c 58 s 313 are each amended to
24 read as follows:

25 Recipients who have not obtained a deferral under section 2 of this
26 act or paid, unsubsidized employment (~~(by the end of the job search~~
27 ~~component authorized in section 312 of this act)) shall be referred to
28 a work activity.~~

29 (1) Each recipient shall be assessed immediately upon completion of
30 the job search component. Assessments shall be based upon factors that
31 are critical to obtaining employment, including but not limited to
32 education, employment strengths, and employment history. Assessments
33 may be performed by the department or by a contracted entity. The
34 assessment shall be based on a uniform, consistent, transferable format
35 that will be accepted by all agencies and organizations serving the
36 recipient. Based on the assessment, an individual responsibility plan
37 shall be prepared that: (a) Sets forth an employment goal and a plan

1 for moving the recipient immediately into employment; (b) contains the
2 obligation of the recipient to become and remain employed; (c) moves
3 the recipient into whatever employment the recipient is capable of
4 handling as quickly as possible; and (d) describes the services
5 available to the recipient to enable the recipient to obtain and keep
6 employment.

7 (2) Recipients who are not engaged in work and work activities, and
8 do not qualify for a good cause exemption under RCW 74.08A.270, shall
9 engage in self-directed service as provided in RCW 74.08A.330.

10 (3) If a recipient refuses to engage in work and work activities
11 required by the department, the family's grant shall be reduced by the
12 recipient's share, and may, if the department determines it
13 appropriate, be terminated.

14 (4) The department may waive the penalties required under
15 subsection (3) of this section, subject to a finding that the recipient
16 refused to engage in work for good cause provided in RCW 74.08A.270.

17 (5) In implementing this section, the department shall assign the
18 highest priority to the most employable clients, including adults in
19 two-parent families and parents in single-parent families that include
20 older preschool or school-age children to be engaged in work
21 activities.

22 (6) In consultation with the recipient, the department or
23 contractor shall place the recipient into a work activity that is
24 available in the local area where the recipient resides.

25 (7) The department shall encourage and facilitate placement of
26 recipients into apprenticeships or preapprenticeship training programs.

27 **Sec. 4.** RCW 74.08A.270 and 1997 c 58 s 314 are each amended to
28 read as follows:

29 (1) Good cause reasons for failure to participate in WorkFirst
30 program components include: ~~((1))~~ (a) Situations where the recipient
31 is a parent or other relative personally providing care for a child
32 under the age of six years, and formal or informal child care, or day
33 care for an incapacitated individual living in the same home as a
34 dependent child, is necessary for an individual to participate or
35 continue participation in the program or accept employment, and such
36 care is not available, and the department fails to provide such care;
37 or ~~((2) until June 30, 1999,)~~ (b) if the recipient is a parent with
38 a child under the age of one year. A parent may only receive this

1 exemption for a total of twelve months, which may be consecutive or
2 nonconsecutive; or ~~((3) after June 30, 1999, if the recipient is a~~
3 ~~parent with a child under three months of age))~~ (c) if the recipient is
4 a victim of domestic violence; or (d) if the recipient is
5 incapacitated; or (e) if the recipient is caring for an incapacitated
6 child; or (f) if the recipient is fifty-five years of age or older and
7 is the grandparent or nonparent relative of the dependent child.

8 (2) For purposes of this section, domestic violence victimization
9 must be documented by either a protection order or a written
10 confirmation of treatment by a health care professional licensed under
11 chapter 18.57, 18.57A, 18.71, 18.71A, 18.79, or 18.83 RCW for the
12 effects of domestic violence. Incapacity of a recipient or child must
13 be documented by medical or psychiatric clinical evidence, confirmed in
14 writing by a health care professional licensed under chapter 18.57,
15 18.57A, 18.71, 18.71A, 18.79, or 18.83 RCW.

16 (3) When the domestic violence victimization or the incapacity of
17 the recipient or child no longer exist, the good cause deferral under
18 this section terminates. The department shall notify the recipient of
19 the termination of the good cause exemption.

20 NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. A new section is added to chapter 74.08A RCW
21 to read as follows:

22 Recipients who are not required to meet work requirements under RCW
23 74.08A.270 shall receive grants, child care, and related services that
24 are not supported by the temporary assistance for needy families block
25 grant.

26 NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. If any part of this act is found to be in
27 conflict with federal requirements that are a prescribed condition to
28 the allocation of federal funds to the state, the conflicting part of
29 this act is inoperative solely to the extent of the conflict and with
30 respect to the agencies directly affected, and this finding does not
31 affect the operation of the remainder of this act in its application to
32 the agencies concerned. Rules adopted under this act must meet federal
33 requirements that are a necessary condition to the receipt of federal
34 funds by the state."

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4 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "families;" strike the
5 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 74.08A.010, 74.08A.260,
6 and 74.08A.270; adding new sections to chapter 74.08A RCW; and creating
7 a new section."

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