
HOUSE BILL 1507

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Representatives Clements, Boldt, Cox, Talcott and McMorris

Read first time 01/29/2001. Referred to Committee on Children & Family Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to temporary assistance for needy families program
2 requirements; and amending RCW 74.12.035.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.12.035 and 1999 c 120 s 2 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) Children over eighteen years of age and under nineteen years of
7 age who are full-time students reasonably expected to complete a
8 program of secondary school, or the equivalent level of vocational or
9 technical training, before reaching nineteen years of age are eligible
10 to receive temporary assistance for needy families: PROVIDED HOWEVER,
11 That if such students do not successfully complete such program before
12 reaching nineteen years of age, the assistance rendered under this
13 subsection during such period shall not be a debt due the state.

14 (2) Children with disabilities who are eighteen years of age and
15 under twenty-one years of age and who are full-time students whose
16 education is being provided in accordance with RCW 28A.155.020 are
17 eligible to receive temporary assistance for needy families benefits.

18 (3) The department is authorized to grant exceptions to the
19 eligibility restrictions for children eighteen years of age and under

1 twenty-one years of age under subsections (1) and (2) of this section
2 only when it determines by reasonable, objective criteria that such
3 exceptions are likely to enable the children to complete their high
4 school education, general equivalency diploma or vocational education.

5 (4)(a) After January 1, 2002, a new applicant for temporary
6 assistance for needy families not currently enrolled in an educational
7 institution must have a high school diploma, a general equivalency
8 diploma, or have completed twelve years of instruction at a public or
9 private school. The new applicant will be ineligible for temporary
10 assistance for needy families for the five years immediately following
11 the applicant's last date of attendance at an educational institution.
12 If prior to the expiration of the five years, the new applicant
13 receives a diploma or general equivalency degree or completes twelve
14 years of instruction, he or she will be eligible to receive assistance.

15 (b) The requirements in (a) of this subsection may be waived if the
16 applicant received a waiver from the local school board when he or she
17 discontinued his or her education. Waivers granted by the school board
18 for the purposes of this subsection shall only affect the student's
19 eligibility for temporary assistance for needy families program and
20 shall not affect any other law related to school attendance. A waiver
21 shall be granted if a student is prevented from attending school due
22 to:

23 (i) An illness of the student or of a family member that the
24 student must care for;

25 (ii) The disability of the student or child of the student; or

26 (iii) Other extenuating circumstances as determined by the school
27 board that would prevent a student from continuing his or her
28 education.

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