

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 2252

As Passed House:

June 6, 2003

Title: An act relating to social service programs.

Brief Description: Revising eligibility requirements for general assistance.

Sponsors: By Representatives Sommers, Fromhold and Moeller.

Brief History:

First Special Session

Floor Activity:

Passed House: 6/6/03, 93-1.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Requires the Department of Social and Health Services to discontinue benefits to General Assistance - Unemployable recipients unless the recipient demonstrates no material improvement in his or her medical or mental condition at the incapacity review.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Majority/Minority Report: None.

Staff: Heather Flodstrom (786-7391).

Background:

General Assistance - Unemployable (GA-U) benefits are provided to people who are temporarily disabled and as a result cannot work. To be eligible for these benefits, a client must undergo an incapacity review that proves the client temporarily disabled by a medical or mental condition. After a client is determined eligible for GA-U benefits, the client is required to have periodic incapacity reviews to ensure continued eligibility for the program.

Current law prohibits the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) from terminating a GA-U recipient's benefits unless there is a clear showing of material

improvement in the recipient's medical or mental condition at the incapacity review.

Summary of Bill:

The DSHS is required to discontinue benefits to GA-U recipients unless the recipient demonstrates no material improvement in his or her medical or mental condition at the incapacity review.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Testimony For: None.

Testimony Against: None.

Testified: None.