

2SSB 5214 - H COMM AMD
By Committee on Appropriations

ADOPTED 04/06/2021

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 74.08A.010 and 2020 c 320 s 1 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (1) A family that includes an adult who has received temporary
6 assistance for needy families for sixty months after July 27, 1997,
7 shall be ineligible for further temporary assistance for needy
8 families assistance.

9 (2) For the purposes of applying the rules of this section, the
10 department shall count any month in which an adult family member
11 received a temporary assistance for needy families cash assistance
12 grant unless the assistance was provided when the adult family member
13 was a minor child and not the head of the household or married to the
14 head of the household.

15 (3) The department shall adopt regulations to apply the sixty-
16 month time limit to households in which a parent is in the home and
17 ineligible for temporary assistance for needy families. Any
18 regulations shall be consistent with federal funding requirements.

19 (4) The department shall refer recipients who require specialized
20 assistance to appropriate department programs, crime victims'
21 programs through the department of commerce, or the crime victims'
22 compensation program of the department of labor and industries.

23 (5) (a) The department shall add to adopted rules related to
24 temporary assistance for needy families time limit extensions, the
25 following criteria by which the department shall exempt a recipient
26 and the recipient's family from the application of subsection (1) of
27 this section:

28 (i) By reason of hardship, including when (~~the~~):

29 (A) The recipient's family includes a child or youth who is
30 without a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence as
31 described in the federal McKinney-Vento homeless assistance act

1 (Title 42 U.S.C., chapter 119, subchapter VI, part B) as it existed
2 on January 1, 2020; or

3 (B) The recipient received temporary assistance for needy
4 families during a month on or after March 1, 2020, when Washington
5 state's unemployment rate as published by the Washington employment
6 security department was equal to or greater than seven percent, and
7 the recipient is otherwise eligible for temporary assistance for
8 needy families except that they have exceeded 60 months. The
9 extension provided for under this subsection (5)(a)(i)(B) is equal to
10 the number of months that the recipient received temporary assistance
11 for needy families during a month after March 1, 2020, when the
12 unemployment rate was equal to or greater than seven percent, and is
13 applied sequentially to any other hardship extensions that may apply
14 under this subsection (5) or in rule; or

15 (ii) If the family includes an individual who meets the family
16 violence options of section 402(A)(7) of Title IVA of the federal
17 social security act as amended by P.L. 104-193.

18 (b) Policies related to circumstances under which a recipient
19 will be exempted from the application of subsection (1) or (3) of
20 this section shall treat adults receiving benefits on their own
21 behalf, and parents receiving benefits on behalf of their child
22 similarly, unless required otherwise under federal law.

23 (6) The department shall not exempt a recipient and his or her
24 family from the application of subsection (1) or (3) of this section
25 until after the recipient has received fifty-two months of assistance
26 under this chapter.

27 (7) The department shall provide transitional food assistance for
28 a period of five months to a household that ceases to receive
29 temporary assistance for needy families assistance and is not in
30 sanction status. If necessary, the department shall extend the
31 household's basic food certification until the end of the transition
32 period.

33 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. If any part of this act is found to be in
34 conflict with federal requirements that are a prescribed condition to
35 the allocation of federal funds to the state, the conflicting part of
36 this act is inoperative solely to the extent of the conflict and with
37 respect to the agencies directly affected, and this finding does not
38 affect the operation of the remainder of this act in its application
39 to the agencies concerned. Rules adopted under this act must meet

1 federal requirements that are a necessary condition to the receipt of
2 federal funds by the state.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 74.08A
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 All families who have received temporary assistance for needy
6 families since March 1, 2020, are eligible for the extension under
7 RCW 74.08A.010(5)(a)(i)(B), regardless of whether they are current
8 recipients. Eligible families shall only receive temporary assistance
9 for needy families benefits that accrue after the effective date of
10 this act.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act takes effect July 1, 2023, only
12 if specific funding for extending the 60-month time limit through the
13 2021-2023 biennium, is provided by June 30, 2021, in the omnibus
14 appropriations act. If specific funding for extending the 60-month
15 time limit through the 2021-2023 biennium is not provided by June 30,
16 2021, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act takes effect 90
17 days after final adjournment of the legislative session in which it
18 is enacted."

19 Correct the title.

EFFECT: (1) Clarifies that the time limit extension criteria related to unemployment rates applies on or after March 1, 2020.

(2) Provides that a family is not required to be a current recipient to be eligible for the additional time allowed under the extension so long as they received TANF after March 1, 2020, and that the additional benefits a family may receive will accrue after the effective date of the Act.

(3) Removes the provision applying the Act retroactively to March 1, 2020, as well as prospectively.

(4) Applies a contingent effective date of July 1, 2023, only if funding for providing time limit extensions through the 2021-2023 biennium is included in the 2021-23 operating budget. If funding is not provided in the budget, the act takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which it is enacted. Adds a federal severability clause.

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