
HOUSE BILL 2048

State of Washington

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2022 Regular Session

By Representatives Peterson, Ortiz-Self, Senn, Santos, Ormsby, Bergquist, Macri, Ramel, Simmons, Pollet, and Harris-Talley

Read first time 01/19/22. Referred to Committee on Housing, Human Services & Veterans.

1 AN ACT Relating to temporary assistance for needy families time
2 limit extensions; and amending RCW 74.08A.010.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.08A.010 and 2021 c 239 s 1 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) A family that includes an adult who has received temporary
7 assistance for needy families for (~~sixty~~) 60 months after July 27,
8 1997, shall be ineligible for further temporary assistance for needy
9 families assistance.

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

16 (3) The department shall adopt regulations to apply the (~~sixty-~~
17 ~~month~~) 60-month time limit to households in which a parent is in the
18 home and ineligible for temporary assistance for needy families. Any
19 regulations shall be consistent with federal funding requirements.

20 (4) The department shall refer recipients who require specialized
21 assistance to appropriate department programs, crime victims'

1 programs through the department of commerce, or the crime victims'
2 compensation program of the department of labor and industries.

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

8 (i) By reason of hardship, including when:

9 (A) The recipient's family includes a child or youth who is
10 without a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence as
11 described in the federal McKinney-Vento homeless assistance act
12 (Title 42 U.S.C., chapter 119, subchapter VI, part B) as it existed
13 on January 1, 2020; or

14 (B) The recipient received temporary assistance for needy
15 families during a month on or after March 1, 2020, when Washington
16 state's unemployment rate as published by the Washington employment
17 security department was equal to or greater than seven percent, and
18 the recipient is otherwise eligible for temporary assistance for
19 needy families except that they have exceeded 60 months. The
20 extension provided for under this subsection (5) (a) (i) (B) is equal to
21 the number of months that the recipient received temporary assistance
22 for needy families during a month after March 1, 2020, when the
23 unemployment rate was equal to or greater than seven percent, and is
24 applied sequentially to any other hardship extensions that may apply
25 under this subsection (5) or in rule; ((~~or~~))

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

29 (iii) If the recipient:

30 (A) Is participating satisfactorily in the program;

31 (B) Is temporarily prevented from working or looking for a job;

32 (C) Is in need of mental health or substance use disorder
33 treatment;

34 (D) Is homeless or at substantial risk of losing stable housing
35 or housing support services as described in RCW 43.185C.220; or

36 (E) Demonstrates another basis by which the time limit pursuant
37 to subsection (1) of this section would cause undue hardship to the
38 recipient or the recipient's family.

39 (b) Policies related to circumstances under which a recipient
40 will be exempted from the application of subsection (1) or (3) of

1 this section shall treat adults receiving benefits on their own
2 behalf, and parents receiving benefits on behalf of their child
3 similarly, unless required otherwise under federal law.

4 (6) The department shall not exempt a recipient and his or her
5 family from the application of subsection (1) or (3) of this section
6 until after the recipient has received (~~(fifty-two)~~) 52 months of
7 assistance under this chapter.

8 (7) The department shall provide transitional food assistance for
9 a period of five months to a household that ceases to receive
10 temporary assistance for needy families assistance and is not in
11 sanction status. If necessary, the department shall extend the
12 household's basic food certification until the end of the transition
13 period.

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