



State of Tennessee
PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 786

HOUSE BILL NO. 2806

By Representatives Powers, Ragan, Keisling

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 2857

By Senator Yager

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, relative to the reform of various public assistance programs .

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. The commissioner of the department of human services is directed to conduct a study that will assess the feasibility of a more work friendly assistance eligibility benefits requirement in order to increase workforce participation. The commissioner should particularly attend to reforming current public assistance programs and coordinating income disregard and eligibility across TANF to encourage work effort on the part of welfare recipients and as a means to supplement the income of low-wage employees. The study should examine the feasibility of adopting graduated income disregards for benefits that decline over time, based on the increased income from the recipient's employment. The commissioner shall consult with the various state departments and agencies, including but not limited to, the department of agriculture, the Tennessee housing development authority, the bureau of TennCare and any other interested stakeholders. This study, which is currently being conducted, shall include a comprehensive review of the TANF program and how work-friendly it is with recipients joining the workforce. The department shall report the results of the study to the senate health and welfare committee and the house health and human resources committee on or before July 1, 2013.

SECTION 2. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Welfare Roll to Payroll Act".

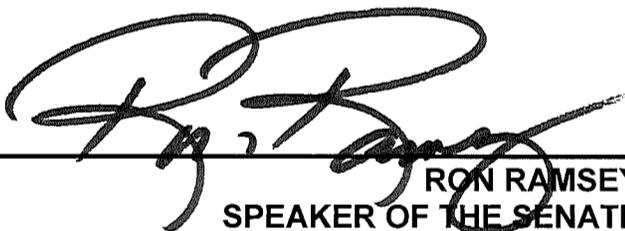
SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: APRIL 9, 2012

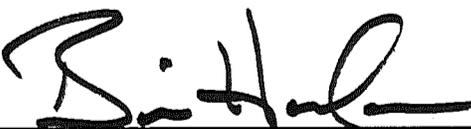


BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 23rd day of April 2012



BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR