



State of Tennessee
PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 912

SENATE BILL NO. 2224

By Norris, Watson

Substituted for: House Bill No. 2362

By McCormick, Butt, Powers

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, Chapter 3, Part 1, relative to eligibility for temporary assistance.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-3-154(b)(1), is amended by deleting subdivision (1) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(1) A caretaker relative who becomes ineligible for any reason other than a failure to comply with work requirements or to cooperate with child support obligations shall be eligible for transitional childcare assistance for a period specified by the department while the caretaker relative is employed, in school, or in employment training. Childcare assistance terminated due to failure to comply with work requirements shall be reinstated upon verification by the department that the work requirements were, in fact, being met immediately preceding such ineligibility. Childcare assistance shall be paid, on a sliding fee scale based upon the family's income for so long as federal funding or any related waiver is in effect.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-3-154(h)(2)(D), is amended by deleting subdivision (h)(2)(D) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(D) The personal responsibility plan may provide transportation assistance, if needed to participate in required activities; provided, that the department shall first utilize available community transportation resources before providing such assistance from department funds. The department shall provide childcare services for those individuals who are receiving benefits, participating in work activities delineated in subsection (g), and not exempt from work activities pursuant to this part.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-3-154(h)(4), is amended by deleting subdivision (4) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(4) If, without good cause, a recipient of temporary assistance fails to comply with a child support or work plan requirement imposed by this part or prescribed within the personal responsibility plan, then the family shall be subject to appropriate sanction by the department, which may include termination of assistance for a period to be determined by the department.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: April 24, 2012



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 10th day of May 2012



BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR