

HOUSE BILL 914

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1999 Regular Session
(9r1195)

ENROLLED BILL
-- Appropriations/Finance --

Introduced by **Delegates McIntosh, Kirk, Benson, Nathan-Pulliam, Pitkin,
Marriott, Hecht, Kopp, Branch, V. Jones, Goldwater, and Turner**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this
____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, ____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Investment Program - Earned Income Disregard**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the amount of earned income that will be disregarded for
4 the purposes of determining the amount of assistance an individual may receive
5 under the Family Investment Program; ~~prohibiting the use of general funds for~~
6 ~~certain purposes; prohibiting the increase in the earned income disregard from~~
7 increasing certain expenditures; requiring the Department of Human Resources
8 to ensure that certain time limits on the receipt of cash assistance do not apply
9 under certain circumstances; requiring the Secretary of Human Resources to
10 monitor certain federal legislative and regulatory actions and to make certain
11 certifications under certain circumstances; providing for the termination of this
12 Act under certain circumstances; providing for the termination of this Act; and
13 generally relating to the Family Investment Program.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article 88A - Department of Human Resources

1 Section 49(d)
 2 Annotated Code of Maryland
 3 (1998 Replacement Volume)

4 ~~BY adding to~~
 5 ~~Article 88A—Department of Human Resources~~
 6 ~~Section 49(d)~~
 7 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
 8 ~~(1998 Replacement Volume)~~

9 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
 10 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

11 **Article 88A - Department of Human Resources**

12 49.

13 (d) (1) For applicants to the Family Investment Program, the amount of
 14 assistance shall be computed by counting no more than 4 weeks of earned income in
 15 any month and disregarding 20% of that earned income.

16 (2) For eligible Family Investment Program recipients who obtain
 17 unsubsidized employment, the amount of assistance shall be computed by counting no
 18 more than 4 weeks of earned income in any month and disregarding ~~26%~~ 35% of that
 19 earned income.}

20 ~~(D) THE AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE SHALL BE COMPUTED BY COUNTING NO~~
 21 ~~MORE THAN 4 WEEKS OF EARNED INCOME IN ANY MONTH AND DISREGARDING THE~~
 22 ~~FIRST \$170 OF THE TOTAL OF THAT EARNED INCOME PLUS 60% OF THE REMAINDER~~
 23 ~~OF THAT EARNED INCOME.~~

24 ~~SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That no general funds may be~~
 25 ~~used to fund an increase in the earned income disregard from 26% to 35%, as required~~
 26 ~~by this Act.~~

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the increase in the
 28 earned income disregard provided by this Act may not increase State General Fund
 29 expenditures or expenditures from the reserve for future welfare costs in the Dedicated
 30 Purpose Fund.

31 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to federal law
 32 and regulation, the Department of Human Resources shall ensure that, if a Family
 33 Investment Program recipient's eligibility for cash assistance is extended as a result of
 34 this Act, the extended period of cash assistance is not subject to federal and State time
 35 limits on the receipt of cash assistance.

36 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Secretary of Human
 37 Resources shall monitor federal legislative and regulatory action under the federal

1 Social Security Act and, if on or after July 1, 1999, amendments to the federal Social
2 Security Act or regulations adopted under the federal Social Security Act subject the
3 extended period of cash assistance resulting from this Act to federal time limits, the
4 Secretary of Human Resources shall certify this fact to the Joint Committee on Welfare
5 Reform of the General Assembly. On the date of certification, this Act shall be null and
6 void and of no force and effect. The Secretary of Human Resources shall send a copy of
7 the certification to the Department of Legislative Services.

8 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, if the Secretary of
9 Human Resources determines that federal funding under the Temporary Assistance to
10 Needy Families Block Grant has declined to the extent that an increase in State funds
11 is necessary to fund this Act, the Secretary of Human Resources shall certify this fact to
12 the Joint Committee on Welfare Reform of the General Assembly. On the date of the
13 certification, this Act shall be null and void and of no force and effect. The Secretary of
14 Human Resources shall send a copy of the certification to the Department of
15 Legislative Services.

16 SECTION ~~2.3.~~ 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
17 effect July 1, 1999. It shall remain effective for a period of three years and, at the end
18 of June 30, 2002, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act
19 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.