

SENATE BILL 445

Unofficial Copy  
01

1999 Regular Session  
(9lr1757)

**ENROLLED BILL**  
-- Finance/Appropriations --

Introduced by **Senator Lawlah**

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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President.

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 increase in the earned  
6 income disregard from increasing certain expenditures; requiring the  
7 Department of Human Resources to ensure that certain time limits on the  
8 receipt of cash assistance do not apply under certain circumstances; requiring  
9 the Secretary of Human Resources to monitor certain federal legislative and  
10 regulatory actions and to make certain certifications under certain  
11 circumstances; providing for the termination of this Act under certain  
12 circumstances; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating  
13 to the Family Investment Program.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
15 Article 88A - Department of Human Resources  
16 Section 49(d)

1 Annotated Code of Maryland  
2 (1998 Replacement Volume)

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

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

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

11 49.

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

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

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

23 ~~SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the increase in the~~  
24 ~~earned income disregard provided by this Act may not increase State General Fund~~  
25 ~~expenditures or expenditures from the reserve for future welfare costs in the~~  
26 ~~Dedicated Purpose Fund.~~

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

32 ~~SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Secretary of Human~~  
33 ~~Resources shall monitor federal legislative and regulatory action under the federal~~  
34 ~~Social Security Act and, if on or after July 1, 1999, amendments to the federal Social~~  
35 ~~Security Act or regulations adopted under the federal Social Security Act subject the~~  
36 ~~extended period of cash assistance resulting from this Act to federal time limits, the~~  
37 ~~Secretary of Human Resources shall certify this fact to the Joint Committee on~~  
38 ~~Welfare Reform of the General Assembly. On the date of certification, this Act shall be~~

1 null and void and of no force and effect. The Secretary of Human Resources shall send  
2 a copy of the certification to the Department of Legislative Services.

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

11 SECTION ~~2.~~ 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take  
12 effect July 1, 1999. *It shall remain effective for a period of three years and, at the end*  
13 *of June 30, 2002, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act*  
14 *shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.*