
By: **Senators Gladden, Britt, Conway, Currie, Garagiola, Giannetti,
Grosfeld, Hughes, Jones, Kelley, and McFadden**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2005

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Public Assistance Programs - Work Vouchers for Transit Service**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of "assistance" under the State public
4 assistance programs to include vouchers for transit service for certain program
5 participants to pay work-related commuting expenses incurred for the use of
6 certain transit facilities; making stylistic changes; and generally relating to
7 vouchers for transit expenses for individuals to get to and from or seek work
8 under the State public assistance programs.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article 88A - Department of Human Resources
11 Section 64
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2003 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
15 Article 88A - Department of Human Resources
16 Section 65
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2003 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

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

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

22 64.

23 (A) As used in this subtitle, "State Department" means the State Department
24 of Social Services created under this article.

25 (B) "Local units" means the local departments of social services in the counties
26 and in Baltimore City created or continued under the provisions of § 13 of this article,
27 and any amendments thereto or supplements thereof.

1 (C) "County" shall be construed to include the City of Baltimore, unless
2 otherwise specified or unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

3 (D) "Applicant" means a person who has applied for assistance under this
4 subtitle.

5 (E) "Recipient" means a person who is receiving, or who at any time has
6 received, assistance under the terms of this subtitle.

7 (F) "Assistance" means money payments to needy individuals under the
8 general public assistance or public assistance to adults programs and payments
9 necessary for services for these individuals, INCLUDING VOUCHERS TO PAY FOR
10 TRANSIT SERVICE, TO OR FROM WORK OR TO OR FROM A LOCATION TO SEEK WORK,
11 ON A TRANSIT FACILITY OWNED OR OPERATED BY OR FOR:

12 (1) THE MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION; OR

13 (2) A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE.

14 (G) "Supplementary services" means services other than money payments to
15 needy individuals, including payments toward funeral expenses of such individuals as
16 provided in this article, and in the case of a recipient without a legal guardian or
17 person legally responsible for his support means the placement of such recipient in a
18 suitable home or institution with the recipient's consent.

19 65.

20 (a) The Social Services Administration shall establish, implement and modify
21 as necessary a program of State funded assistance payments to residents of the State
22 of Maryland whose income and benefits are not sufficient to maintain a reasonable
23 subsistence compatible with decency and health, and who (1) are eligible for or receive
24 cash benefits under Title XVI of the federal Social Security Act, or (2) are aged, blind,
25 or disabled as required under Title XVI of the Social Security Act and, but for income,
26 would receive cash benefits under that title; such program to be known as public
27 assistance to adults.

28 (b) The program established in paragraph (a) shall be in effect in all political
29 subdivisions of this State and shall be administered by the local units in conformity
30 with rules and regulations of the Social Services Administration.

31 (c) Eligibility and all other requirements not set forth in this subtitle shall be
32 established by rules and regulations of the Social Services Administration.

33 (d) Support from children shall be regarded as a potential resource and
34 evaluated as to amount and availability, as determined by rule and regulation of the
35 State Administration.

36 (e) An applicant may not make an assignment or transfer of property for the
37 purpose of rendering himself eligible for assistance under this section at any time

1 within 3 years immediately prior to the filing of application for assistance or the
2 receipt of assistance pursuant to the provisions of this article.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 October 1, 2005.