

SENATE BILL 686

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3lr1947
CF HB 884

By: **Senator Garagiola**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2013

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 11, 2013

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Investment Program – Earned Income Disregard Pilot Program**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing an Earned Income Disregard Pilot Program within
4 the Family Investment Program; requiring the Department of Human
5 Resources to select a certain number of counties for participation in the Pilot
6 Program; requiring a county that participates in the Pilot Program to
7 administer benefits under the Family Investment Program in a certain manner;
8 altering the amount of the earned income that is disregarded for the purpose of
9 determining the amount of assistance an individual may receive under the Pilot
10 Program; requiring the Department to collect and report certain information to
11 certain committees of the General Assembly by certain dates; requiring the
12 Department to adopt certain regulations; defining a certain term; providing for
13 the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Earned Income
14 Disregard Pilot Program under the Family Investment Program.

15 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

16 Article – Human Services
17 Section 5–301(b) and 5–310(a)
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2007 Volume and 2012 Supplement)

20 BY adding to

21 Article – Human Services
22 Section 5–310.1
23 Annotated Code of Maryland

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (2007 Volume and 2012 Supplement)

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

4 **Article – Human Services**

5 5–301.

6 (b) “FIP” means the Family Investment Program.

7 5–310.

8 (a) (1) For applicants to the FIP, the amount of assistance shall be
9 computed by counting no more than 4 weeks of earned income in any month and
10 disregarding 20% of that earned income.

11 (2) For eligible recipients who obtain unsubsidized employment, the
12 amount of assistance shall be computed by counting no more than 4 weeks of earned
13 income in any month and disregarding 40% of that earned income.

14 **5–310.1.**

15 (A) **IN THIS SECTION, “PILOT PROGRAM” MEANS THE EARNED INCOME**
16 **DISREGARD PILOT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION.**

17 (B) **THERE IS AN EARNED INCOME DISREGARD PILOT PROGRAM**
18 **WITHIN THE FIP.**

19 (C) **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SELECT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT**
20 **PROGRAM:**

21 (1) **TWO OR MORE RURAL COUNTIES; AND**

22 (2) **ONE URBAN OR SUBURBAN COUNTY.**

23 (D) **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION, THE**
24 **COUNTIES PARTICIPATING IN THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL ADMINISTER THE**
25 **FIP IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE.**

26 (E) (1) **NOTWITHSTANDING § 5–310(A) OF THIS SUBTITLE, FOR**
27 **APPLICANTS TO THE PILOT PROGRAM, THE AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE SHALL BE**
28 **COMPUTED BY COUNTING NO MORE THAN 4 WEEKS OF EARNED INCOME IN ANY**
29 **MONTH AND DISREGARDING 20% OF THAT EARNED INCOME.**

1 **(2) FOR ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS WHO OBTAIN UNSUBSIDIZED**
2 **EMPLOYMENT, THE AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE SHALL BE COMPUTED BY**
3 **COUNTING NO MORE THAN 4 WEEKS OF EARNED INCOME IN ANY MONTH AND**
4 **DISREGARDING:**

5 **(I) 100% OF THAT EARNED INCOME FOR THE FIRST 3**
6 **MONTHS OF EMPLOYMENT;**

7 **(II) 60% OF THAT EARNED INCOME FOR EMPLOYMENT**
8 **EXCEEDING 3 MONTHS, BUT LESS THAN 10 MONTHS; AND**

9 **(III) 40% OF THAT EARNED INCOME FOR EMPLOYMENT**
10 **EXCEEDING 9 MONTHS.**

11 **(F) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:**

12 **(1) COLLECT INFORMATION NECESSARY TO ASSESS THE**
13 **EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PILOT PROGRAM, INCLUDING:**

14 **(I) THE NUMBER OF CLIENTS RECEIVING FIP BENEFITS**
15 **AFTER RECEIVING BENEFITS UNDER THE PILOT PROGRAM;**

16 **(II) THE NUMBER OF CLIENTS WORKING FOR AN EMPLOYER**
17 **COVERED BY MARYLAND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE; AND**

18 **(III) WHETHER THE CLIENTS MADE PROGRESS IN THEIR**
19 **QUARTERLY EARNINGS; AND**

20 **(2) (I) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 2015, SUBMIT AN**
21 **INTERIM REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS TO THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE, THE**
22 **HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, AND THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON**
23 **WELFARE REFORM, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE**
24 **GOVERNMENT ARTICLE; AND**

25 **(II) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 2016, SUBMIT A FINAL**
26 **REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS TO THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE, THE HOUSE**
27 **APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, AND THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON WELFARE**
28 **REFORM, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT**
29 **ARTICLE.**

30 **(G) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT ANY REGULATIONS NECESSARY**
31 **TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION.**

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1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 October 1, 2013. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of
3 September 30, 2016, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act
4 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.