

BY: Finance Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 969
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in lines 2 and 3, strike “Transitional Assistance for Education Pilot Program” and substitute “Work Activity Requirement – Authorized Activities and Report”; strike beginning with “establishing” in line 4 down through “Program” in line 20 and substitute “requiring the Department of Human Services to allow a certain applicant for or recipient of assistance under the Family Investment Program to meet a certain work activity requirement by participating in certain vocational education or education programs in a certain manner for a certain maximum time period; authorizing the Department to suspend the application of certain provisions of law under certain circumstances; requiring the Department to report certain information to the General Assembly on or before a certain date each year; defining certain terms; providing for a delayed effective date; and generally relating to work activity requirements under the Family Investment Program”; in line 23, strike “(g) and 5–312(f)(1)” and substitute “(h)”; and in line 28, strike “5–312(f)(2)” and substitute “5–308(a)”.

On page 2, in line 4, strike “5–312.1” and substitute “5–322”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, strike in their entirety lines 16 and 17 and substitute:

“(h) “Work activity” means:

- (1) job search activity;
- (2) subsidized employment in either the public or private sector;
- (3) work experience;

(Over)

- (4) on-the-job training;
- (5) community service;
- (6) training directly related to employment; or
- (7) education directly related to employment.

5-308.

(a) (1) (I) **IN THIS SUBSECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.**

(II) **“TARGET WORK RATE” MEANS THE RATE ESTABLISHED FOR THE STATE BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BASED ON THE STATE’S CASELOAD REDUCTION CREDIT UNDER THE FEDERAL TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM, 42 U.S.C. 22-601 ET SEQ.**

(III) **“WORK PARTICIPATION RATE” MEANS THE FEDERAL WORK PARTICIPATION RATE ESTABLISHED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES UNDER THE FEDERAL TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM, 42 U.S.C. 22-601 ET SEQ.**

(2) A family may be eligible for assistance under this subtitle only if the family includes:

(i) a minor child who resides with a custodial parent or other adult caretaker who is a relative of the child; or

(ii) a pregnant individual.

[(2)] (3) Assistance shall be provided to an applicant or recipient under this subtitle only if the applicant or recipient:

(i) resides in the State at the time of application for assistance;

(ii) if applicable:

1. has applied for child support services with the appropriate local child support enforcement office at the time of application for assistance; and

2. complies with the requirements of the local child support enforcement office;

(iii) has engaged in job search activities as requested by the Department;

(iv) participates in work activity under this subtitle; and

(v) meets all other FIP requirements that the Secretary establishes by regulation.

(4) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (5) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ALLOW AN APPLICANT OR A RECIPIENT TO MEET THE WORK ACTIVITY REQUIREMENT FOR A MAXIMUM OF 24 MONTHS BY ENGAGING IN:

(1) A MINIMUM OF 20 HOURS PER WEEK OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION THAT LEADS TO AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE, A DIPLOMA, OR A CERTIFICATE; OR

(Over)

(II) AN AVERAGE OF AT LEAST 20 HOURS PER WEEK OF EDUCATION DIRECTLY RELATED TO EMPLOYMENT, WHICH MAY INCLUDE:

1. AN ADULT BASIC EDUCATION PROGRAM;
2. AN ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE PROGRAM;

OR

3. A GED PROGRAM.

(5) IF THE WORK PARTICIPATION RATE DOES NOT EXCEED THE TARGET WORK RATE BY 10% IN ANY MONTH, THE DEPARTMENT, AFTER PROVIDING AT LEAST 30 DAYS PRIOR NOTICE TO THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, MAY SUSPEND THE APPLICATION OF PARAGRAPH (4) OF THIS SUBSECTION TO NEW APPLICANTS UNTIL THE WORK PARTICIPATION RATE EXCEEDS THE TARGET WORK RATE BY 10% FOR 3 CONSECUTIVE MONTHS.

5-322.

(A) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 EACH YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR THE PRECEDING YEAR:

(1) THE NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS WHO ENGAGED IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION OR EDUCATION DIRECTLY RELATED TO EMPLOYMENT;

(2) THE NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS WHO COMPLETED VOCATIONAL EDUCATION OR EDUCATION DIRECTLY RELATED TO EMPLOYMENT;

(3) THE NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS WHO OBTAINED OR MAINTAINED EMPLOYMENT FOR 6 MONTHS, 12 MONTHS, 18 MONTHS, AND 24 MONTHS AFTER COMPLETING VOCATIONAL EDUCATION OR EDUCATION DIRECTLY RELATED TO EMPLOYMENT; AND

(4) THE AVERAGE EARNINGS OF RECIPIENTS WHO OBTAINED OR MAINTAINED EMPLOYMENT FOR 6 MONTHS, 12 MONTHS, 18 MONTHS, AND 24 MONTHS AFTER COMPLETING VOCATIONAL EDUCATION OR EDUCATION DIRECTLY RELATED TO EMPLOYMENT.

(B) THE INFORMATION IN THE REPORT REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE BROKEN DOWN BY THE TYPES OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION OR EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN WHICH THE RECIPIENTS ENGAGED, INCLUDING:

(1) ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS;

(2) VOCATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS THAT DO NOT LEAD TO AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE;

(3) POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS THAT ARE NOT INCLUDED IN ITEMS (1) OR (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION;

(4) ADULT BASIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS;

(5) ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE PROGRAMS; AND

(Over)

(6) GED PROGRAMS.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2020.”.

On pages 2 through 4, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 18 on page 2 through line 22 on page 4, inclusive.