

SENATE BILL 969

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9lr3124
CF HB 1066

By: **Senator Peters**

Introduced and read first time: February 18, 2019

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Investment Program – Transitional Assistance for Education Pilot**
3 **Program**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Transitional Assistance for Education Pilot Program
5 within the Family Investment Program in the Department of Human Services;
6 exempting the Pilot Program from a requirement that certain transitional assistance
7 be paid to a certain third party payee; establishing the purpose of the Pilot Program;
8 requiring the Department to establish the Pilot Program in certain counties;
9 specifying certain eligibility requirements for participation in the Pilot Program;
10 requiring the transitional assistance provided to a certain recipient under the Pilot
11 Program to equal a certain benefit; authorizing a certain recipient to reapply for a
12 certain benefit and requiring the benefit to be provided in a certain manner;
13 expressing the intent of the General Assembly that any general funds appropriated
14 for the Pilot Program shall supplement, and not supplant, funds otherwise
15 appropriated for the Department; requiring the Department, in consultation with
16 the University of Maryland School of Social Work, to collect and report certain
17 information to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain
18 date each year; requiring the Secretary of Human Services to adopt certain
19 regulations; defining a certain term; providing for the termination of this Act; and
20 generally relating to the Transitional Assistance for Education Pilot Program.

21 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
22 Article – Human Services
23 Section 5–301(a), (b), (d), (e), and (g) and 5–312(f)(1)
24 Annotated Code of Maryland
25 (2007 Volume and 2018 Supplement)

26 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
27 Article – Human Services
28 Section 5–312(f)(2)
29 Annotated Code of Maryland

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2007 Volume and 2018 Supplement)

2 BY adding to
3 Article – Human Services
4 Section 5–312.1
5 Annotated Code of Maryland
6 (2007 Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

9 **Article – Human Services**

10 5–301.

- 11 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.
- 12 (b) “FIP” means the Family Investment Program.
- 13 (d) “Recipient” means each individual in a FIP case,
- 14 (e) “Temporary cash assistance” means the cash assistance component of the FIP
15 that is funded wholly or partly through Title IV, Part A, of the Social Security Act.
- 16 (g) “Transitional assistance” means assistance provided to a recipient whose
17 temporary cash assistance has been terminated for noncompliance with FIP requirements.

18 5–312.

- 19 (f) (1) After termination of temporary cash assistance under this section, a
20 recipient may receive transitional assistance.

21 (2) **[If] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN § 5–312.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE, IF** a
22 caseworker determines that transitional assistance is appropriate, the FIP benefit that
23 would have been paid to the recipient shall be paid instead to a third party payee on behalf
24 of the recipient for a period of up to 3 months.

25 **5–312.1.**

26 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “PILOT PROGRAM” MEANS THE TRANSITIONAL**
27 **ASSISTANCE FOR EDUCATION PILOT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS**
28 **SECTION.**

29 **(B) THERE IS A TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR EDUCATION PILOT**
30 **PROGRAM WITHIN THE FIP.**

1 **(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE PILOT PROGRAM IS TO INCREASE ACCESS TO**
2 **EMPLOYMENT-RELATED EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR**
3 **RECIPIENTS.**

4 **(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH THE PILOT PROGRAM IN**
5 **BALTIMORE CITY, PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, AND WASHINGTON COUNTY.**

6 **(E) (1) A RECIPIENT IS ELIGIBLE FOR TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE**
7 **UNDER THE PILOT PROGRAM IF:**

8 **(I) THE RECIPIENT PARTICIPATES IN EDUCATION OR TRAINING**
9 **DIRECTLY RELATED TO EMPLOYMENT FOR MORE THAN 10 HOURS EACH WEEK;**

10 **(II) THE RECIPIENT'S TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE IS**
11 **TERMINATED UNDER § 5-312 OF THIS SUBTITLE FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH A**
12 **WORK ACTIVITY REQUIREMENT;**

13 **(III) THE RECIPIENT MEETS ALL OTHER REQUIREMENTS OF THE**
14 **FIP; AND**

15 **(IV) THE RECIPIENT MEETS ANY OTHER REQUIREMENTS**
16 **ESTABLISHED BY REGULATION UNDER THIS SECTION.**

17 **(2) A RECIPIENT MAY NOT RECEIVE TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE**
18 **WHILE RECEIVING TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE PILOT PROGRAM.**

19 **(3) A RECIPIENT MAY NOT RECEIVE MORE THAN 1 YEAR OF**
20 **TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THIS SECTION.**

21 **(F) THE TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO A RECIPIENT UNDER**
22 **THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL BE EQUAL TO THE FIP BENEFIT THAT WOULD HAVE**
23 **BEEN PAID TO THE RECIPIENT.**

24 **(G) A RECIPIENT WHO HAS RECEIVED TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER**
25 **THIS SECTION MAY REAPPLY FOR THE FIP BENEFIT AND THE BENEFIT SHALL BE**
26 **FURNISHED WITH REASONABLE PROMPTNESS TO ALL ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.**

27 **(H) IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT ANY GENERAL**
28 **FUNDS APPROPRIATED FOR THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL SUPPLEMENT, AND NOT**
29 **SUPPLANT, FUNDS OTHERWISE APPROPRIATED FOR THE DEPARTMENT.**

30 **(I) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 EACH YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT, IN**
31 **CONSULTATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK,**

1 **SHALL:**

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

4 **(I) THE COST OF THE PILOT PROGRAM BY COUNTY;**

5 **(II) THE NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS RECEIVING FIP BENEFITS**
6 **AFTER RECEIVING TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE PILOT PROGRAM;**

7 **(III) THE EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND WAGE EARNINGS OF**
8 **RECIPIENTS; AND**

9 **(IV) ANY CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND WAGE**
10 **EARNINGS OF RECIPIENTS AFTER RECEIVING TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER**
11 **THE PILOT PROGRAM; AND**

12 **(2) REPORT ITS FINDINGS TO THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND**
13 **THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE**
14 **STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.**

15 **(J) THE SECRETARY SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE**
16 **PILOT PROGRAM, INCLUDING REGULATIONS SPECIFYING:**

17 **(1) ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPANTS; AND**

18 **(2) QUALIFYING EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES.**

19 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED,** That this Act shall take effect July
20 1, 2019. It shall remain effective for a period of 5 years and, at the end of June 30, 2024,
21 this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and
22 of no further force and effect.