



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 787

HOUSE BILL NO. 1925

By Representatives Rogers, Coley, Weaver, Ragan, Butt, Pody, Hall, Armstrong, Eldridge, McCormick, Holt, Ryan Williams, Dunn, Mark White, Shaw, Kane, Harry Brooks, Bailey, Curtis Johnson, Miller, Littleton, Carter, Powell, McManus

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 1837

By Senators Watson, Massey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, Chapter 3, Part 1, relative to welfare avoidance grants.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, Chapter 3, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) Except for a child only grant for temporary assistance, the department shall evaluate appropriate cases to determine if a diversion grant would be effective in meeting a family's immediate and compelling need and prevent the family from going on temporary assistance or to assist the family in leaving temporary assistance. The diversion grant shall be awarded pursuant to the requirements in subsections (b) and (c) and the rules of the department.

(b) The diversion grant:

(1) Shall meet immediate needs so that an applicant or recipient can avoid temporary cash assistance;

(2) May be granted as the department considers appropriate;

(3) May not cover the same type of immediate need met by a previous diversion grant unless the department determines that the current immediate need is a new and verified emergency;

(4) May range from one (1) to twelve (12) months of temporary cash assistance, dependent upon the department's determination that there is a compelling need for a diversion grant;

(5) Shall be calculated based upon the amount of temporary cash assistance an applicant is eligible to receive under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families/Families First program; and

(6) May not duplicate periods of temporary cash assistance.

(c) The applicant's temporary assistance eligibility period will be reduced by the number of months the applicant receives a diversion grant.

SECTION 2. The commissioner of human services is authorized to promulgate rules to implement the diversion grant program in accord with title 4, chapter 5.

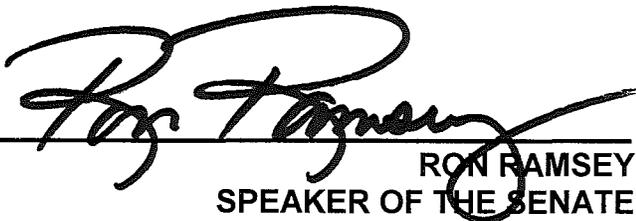
SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: April 9, 2014



BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this ^{24th}~~28th~~ day of April 2014



BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR