

ENGROSSED HOUSE  
BILL NO. 1854

By: Hefner, Roach and Tyler  
of the House

and

Easley of the Senate

An Act relating to poor persons; providing for application for approval of demonstration project for restricting payment of certain assistance to certain persons; setting conditions; prohibiting project in certain counties; providing procedures; providing for certain evaluation and contracts; providing for codification; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 231.1 of Title 56, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The Department of Human Services shall apply to the Secretary of the federal Agency of Health and Human Services for approval of a demonstration project under which the Department provides a person eligible for Aid to Families with Dependent Children who is described in subsection B of this section with monthly payments, for the first six (6) months that said person lives in this state, calculated on the basis of the Aid to Families with Dependent Children benefit level in the state in which the person most recently resided, provided such benefit level is not

more than the benefit level provided for a similar person in this state. The Department shall promulgate rules, which shall be updated annually, establishing the Aid to Families with Dependent Children benefit level that will be paid under the demonstration project according to family size and state of former residence. The Department shall base the benefit level for a family on the Aid to Families with Dependent Children benefit available to a typical family of the same size in the other state, taking into account all factors that may affect the amount of the benefit. The rule shall specify the factors that the Department uses to establish the benefit for participants in the demonstration project.

B. Under the demonstration project, a person is subject to receiving the payments specified by subsection A of this section if said person has not previously resided in this state for at least six (6) months and either:

1. Applies for benefits more than ninety (90) days but fewer than one hundred eighty (180) days after moving to this state and is unable to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Department of Human Services that such person was employed for at least thirteen (13) weeks after moving to this state; or

2. Applies for benefits within ninety (90) days after moving to this state.

C. If approval is granted pursuant to subsection A of this section the Department shall implement the demonstration project. The Department may conduct the demonstration project for a period not to exceed thirty-six (36) months.

D. The Department shall not conduct the demonstration project in a county if the county enacts an ordinance or adopts a resolution objecting to participating in the demonstration project.

If the Department conducts the demonstration project, the Department shall enter into a contract with a private or public agency for the performance of an evaluation of the demonstration

project, including whether the demonstration project deters persons from moving to this state. The Department shall submit the evaluation of the demonstration project to the Governor and to the chief clerk of each house of the Legislature for distribution to its members.

SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed the House of Representatives the 6th day of March, 1995.

Speaker of the House of  
Representatives

Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1995.

President of the Senate