

ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 2933

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An Act relating to poor persons; amending Section 15, Chapter 346, O.S.L. 1995 (56 O.S. Supp. 1995, Section 230.10), which relates to recipients of assistance pursuant to the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program; limiting certain benefits to certain families; requiring certain revisions of certain schedule; providing for determination of ineligibility; providing for additional benefits; providing for computation of benefits; requiring the submission of federal waiver requests by certain date; prohibiting implementation of act until certain certification is made; providing for codification; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 15, Chapter 346, O.S.L. 1995 (56 O.S. Supp. 1995, Section 230.10), is amended to read as follows:

Section 230.10 A. The Commission for Human Services shall revise the schedule of benefits to be paid to a recipient family

under the program of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) pursuant to the provisions of this section.

B. 1. Except as otherwise provided in paragraph 4 of this subsection, for families receiving benefits pursuant to the AFDC program, the Commission shall ~~provide that~~ revise the schedule of cash benefits to be paid to the recipient family by eliminating the increment in benefits under the program for which that family would otherwise be eligible as a result of the birth of an additional child:

- a. during the period in which the family is eligible for AFDC benefits, or
- b. during a temporary period in which the family or recipient is ineligible for AFDC benefits pursuant to a penalty imposed by the Department of Human Services for failure to comply with benefit eligibility requirements, subsequent to which the family or adult recipient is again eligible for benefits,

~~shall be paid pursuant to a voucher as provided in paragraph 2 of this subsection.~~

2. ~~In the case of a family that receives AFDC benefits if the recipient gives birth to an additional child during the period in which the family is eligible for AFDC benefits or during a temporary penalty period of ineligibility for benefits, subsequent to which the family or the adult recipient again becomes eligible for benefits, the Department shall not issue incremental benefits for such additional child to the recipient but shall instead issue a voucher for the amount of the incremental benefit that such recipient would have received for the additional child. The voucher shall be made payable, on behalf of the recipient, for infant and toddler clothing, food, and other articles of necessity for the infant and toddler, in such manner as authorized pursuant to rules of the Commission for Human Services~~ The Department shall provide

instead that a recipient family in which the adult recipient parents an additional child during a temporary penalty period of ineligibility for benefits, may receive additional benefits only pursuant to subsection C of this section, except in the case of a general increase in the amount of AFDC benefits which is provided to all program recipients.

3. A minor child of an applicant or of a recipient family who bears one child shall not be subject to the restriction on incremental benefits for one child only.

4. Any child born to an eligible person within ten (10) months of the effective date of this act or within ten (10) months of application for the AFDC program shall not be construed to be an additional child pursuant to the provisions of this section and the recipient family shall not be subject to the restriction on incremental benefits for that child.

C. In the case of a family that receives AFDC in which the adult recipient parents an additional child during the period in which the family is eligible for AFDC benefits subsequent to which the family of the adult recipient again becomes eligible for benefits, the Department, subject to federal approval, shall, in addition to eliminating the increase in the benefit as provided in subsection A of this section, provide that in computing the amount of financial assistance that is available to the family that receives AFDC, the monthly earned income disregard for each employed person in the family shall increase by an amount equal to that which the family would have otherwise received by parenting an additional child, adjusted for family size.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 230.10a of Title 56, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Department of Human Services shall submit any federal waiver requests as necessary no later than July 1, 1997, to implement the

provisions of this act. This act shall not be implemented until such federal waivers are approved and a certification is made by the Department of Human Services to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate that implementation of this act shall not result in the loss of any federal funds.

SECTION 3. 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 29th day of February, 1996.

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 1996.

President of the Senate