

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 56th Legislature (2018)

HOUSE BILL 2826

By: McEachin

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to poor persons; amending 56 O.S. 2011, Section 230.62, which relates to work activities, training and other services; directing Department of Human Services to explore technological enhancements for work activities and training subject to availability of funds; authorizing creation of an online self-service portal for reporting; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 56 O.S. 2011, Section 230.62, is amended to read as follows:

Section 230.62 A. The Department of Human Services shall, as appropriate, provide literacy remediation, English as a second language, work activities, training, and other services to recipients pursuant to the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program through contracts. In contracting for English as a second language, work activities, training, or other services, the following terms and conditions shall apply:

1. A contract shall be performance based. Whenever possible, payment shall be based on performance outcomes that include, but are

1 not limited to, such factors as job entry, job entry at a target
2 wage, and job retention. Payment shall not be based on completion
3 of training, education, or any other phase of the program
4 participation process;

5 2. A contract may include performance-based incentive payments
6 that may vary according to the extent to which a recipient is more
7 difficult to place. Contract payments may be weighted
8 proportionally to reflect the extent to which a recipient has
9 limitations associated with the long-term receipt of welfare and
10 difficulty in maintaining employment. The factors may include the
11 extent of a recipient's prior receipt of welfare, lack of employment
12 experience, poor literacy skills, lack of education, lack of job
13 skills, and any other factors determined appropriate by the
14 Department; and

15 3. The Department is hereby authorized to contract with
16 commercial, charitable, religious or faith-based organizations to
17 provide the necessary services pursuant to the TANF program as
18 provided in this section.

19 B. Subject to the availability of funds, the Department shall
20 explore and recommend technological enhancements and funding
21 necessary to support the work activities, training and other
22 services provided to recipients as described in subsection A of this
23 section. The enhancements may include creation of an online self-
24 service portal allowing recipients to retain responsibility for

1 periodically reporting on their employment, education, training and
2 job activities.

3 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2018.
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