

HOUSE BILL No. 1017

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 12-8-15.

Synopsis: Pilot program to fund educational attainment. Establishes the parent education assistance pilot program (pilot program). Provides that the office of the secretary of family and social services shall administer the pilot program. Specifies the requirements an individual must satisfy to be eligible to participate in the pilot program. Provides requirements for maintaining participation in the pilot program. Specifies the amount of an eligible individual's grant under the pilot program. Establishes the parent education assistance pilot program fund (fund) for the purpose of funding the pilot program. Provides that the office of the secretary administers the fund.

Effective: July 1, 2021.

Bartlett

January 4, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Family, Children and Human Affairs.



First Regular Session of the 122nd General Assembly (2021)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2020 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1017

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning human services.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 12-8-15 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS
2 A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
3 1, 2021]:

4 **Chapter 15. Parent Education Assistance Pilot Program**

5 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "eligible individual" refers to an**
6 **individual who:**

7 (1) **is enrolled as a full-time student at an approved**
8 **postsecondary educational institution (as defined in**
9 **IC 21-7-13-6(a)) or a vocational school;**

10 (2) **is the parent of at least one (1) dependent child who resides**
11 **with the individual; and**

12 (3) **receives assistance under TANF, the Medicaid program,**
13 **or SNAP before beginning participation in the pilot program.**

14 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "pilot fund" refers to the parent**
15 **education assistance pilot program fund established by section 9 of**
16 **this chapter.**

17 **Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "pilot program" refers to the**



1 parent education assistance pilot program established by section 5
2 of this chapter.

3 Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "volunteer" means to, without
4 compensation, provide services to a school, child care center, child
5 care provider, or child care ministry that provides for the care,
6 health, safety, and supervision of a child's social, emotional, and
7 educational growth.

8 Sec. 5. (a) The parent education assistance pilot program is
9 established to provide grants to eligible individuals for child care
10 costs, to support the educational goals of eligible individuals, and
11 to provide tools for self-sufficiency.

12 (b) The office of the secretary shall administer the pilot
13 program.

14 Sec. 6. (a) The office of the secretary shall establish
15 requirements for participation in the pilot program. An eligible
16 individual must do the following to apply for participation in the
17 pilot program:

18 (1) Apply on a form and in a manner established by the office
19 of the secretary.

20 (2) Provide:

21 (A) information regarding the eligible individual's
22 enrollment status as a full-time student at an approved
23 postsecondary educational institution (as defined in
24 IC 21-7-13-6(a)) or vocational school; and

25 (B) additional information as determined necessary by the
26 office of the secretary.

27 (b) The office of the secretary shall select eligible individuals to
28 participate in the pilot program and award grants to selected
29 eligible individuals.

30 Sec. 7. (a) An eligible individual selected to participate in the
31 pilot program shall meet requirements established by the office of
32 the secretary to maintain eligibility for the pilot program. The
33 requirements to maintain eligibility must include at least the
34 following:

35 (1) The eligible individual shall maintain status as a full-time
36 student.

37 (2) The eligible individual shall volunteer for at least
38 thirty-two (32) hours per month at the school, child care
39 center, child care provider, or child care ministry that the
40 eligible individual's dependent child attends.

41 (3) The eligible individual shall maintain at least a "C"
42 average or the equivalent.



- 1 **(4) The eligible individual may not receive assistance under**
 2 **TANF, the Medicaid program, or SNAP while participating**
 3 **in the pilot program.**
- 4 **(5) The eligible individual shall participate in any training**
 5 **sessions required by the office of the secretary. Training must**
 6 **be provided on at least the following topics:**
- 7 **(A) Financial planning and training.**
 8 **(B) Maintaining and improving an individual's credit**
 9 **score.**
- 10 **(C) Purchasing a home, including programs that provide**
 11 **assistance to first time home buyers.**
- 12 **(b) An eligible individual may participate in the pilot program**
 13 **for not more than four (4) years.**
- 14 **Sec. 8. (a) An eligible individual's pilot program grant is equal**
 15 **to:**
- 16 **(1) twenty-three dollars and fifteen cents (\$23.15) per hour;**
 17 **multiplied by**
 18 **(2) forty (40) hours;**
 19 **per week.**
- 20 **(b) Grants may be awarded to participating eligible individuals**
 21 **on a monthly basis, or more often as determined by the office of the**
 22 **secretary.**
- 23 **Sec. 9. (a) The parent education assistance pilot program fund**
 24 **is established for the purpose of funding the parent education**
 25 **assistance pilot program established by section 5 of this chapter.**
- 26 **(b) The office of the secretary shall administer the pilot fund.**
 27 **(c) The pilot fund consists of the following:**
- 28 **(1) Appropriations to the fund by the general assembly.**
 29 **(2) Gifts to the fund.**
 30 **(3) Grants, including grants from private entities.**
- 31 **(d) Money in the pilot fund at the end of a state fiscal year does**
 32 **not revert to the state general fund.**
- 33 **Sec. 10. The office of the secretary may adopt rules under**
 34 **IC 4-22-2 necessary to implement this chapter.**
- 35 **Sec. 11. This chapter expires June 30, 2030.**

