O1 9lr2571 CF 9lr3124

By: Delegates Valentino-Smith, Lierman, and P. Young

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2019

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

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Family Investment Program – Transitional Assistance for Education Pilot Program

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Transitional Assistance for Education Pilot Program 5 within the Family Investment Program in the Department of Human Services; 6 exempting the Pilot Program from a requirement that certain transitional assistance 7 be paid to a certain third party payee; establishing the purpose of the Pilot Program; 8 requiring the Department to establish the Pilot Program in certain counties; 9 specifying certain eligibility requirements for participation in the Pilot Program; 10 requiring the transitional assistance provided to a certain recipient under the Pilot 11 Program to equal a certain benefit; authorizing a certain recipient to reapply for a 12 certain benefit and requiring the benefit to be provided in a certain manner; 13 expressing the intent of the General Assembly that any general funds appropriated 14 for the Pilot Program shall supplement, and not supplant, funds otherwise 15 appropriated for the Department; requiring the Department, in consultation with 16 the University of Maryland School of Social Work, to collect and report certain information to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain 17 18 date each year; requiring the Secretary of Human Services to adopt certain 19 regulations; defining a certain term; providing for the termination of this Act; and 20 generally relating to the Transitional Assistance for Education Pilot Program.

- 21 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
- 22 Article Human Services
- 23 Section 5–301(a), (b), (d), (e), and (g) and 5–312(f)(1)
- 24 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 25 (2007 Volume and 2018 Supplement)
- 26 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 27 Article Human Services
- 28 Section 5-312(f)(2)
- 29 Annotated Code of Maryland

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (2007 Volume and 2018 Supplement) 2 BY adding to 3 Article – Human Services 4 Section 5–312.1 Annotated Code of Maryland 5 (2007 Volume and 2018 Supplement) 6 7 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, 8 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows: Article - Human Services 9 10 5-301.11 In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated. (a) 12 (b) "FIP" means the Family Investment Program. "Recipient" means each individual in a FIP case, 13 (d) "Temporary cash assistance" means the cash assistance component of the FIP 14 that is funded wholly or partly through Title IV, Part A, of the Social Security Act. 15 16 "Transitional assistance" means assistance provided to a recipient whose (g) temporary cash assistance has been terminated for noncompliance with FIP requirements. 17 5-312.18 19 (f) (1) After termination of temporary cash assistance under this section, a 20 recipient may receive transitional assistance. 21[If] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN § 5–312.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE, IF a 22caseworker determines that transitional assistance is appropriate, the FIP benefit that would have been paid to the recipient shall be paid instead to a third party payee on behalf 23 of the recipient for a period of up to 3 months. 245-312.1. 25 IN THIS SECTION, "PILOT PROGRAM" MEANS THE TRANSITIONAL 26 27 ASSISTANCE FOR EDUCATION PILOT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS 28 SECTION.
- 29 (B) THERE IS A TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR EDUCATION PILOT 30 PROGRAM WITHIN THE FIP.

- 1 (C) THE PURPOSE OF THE PILOT PROGRAM IS TO INCREASE ACCESS TO 2 EMPLOYMENT-RELATED EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR 3 RECIPIENTS.
- 4 (D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH THE PILOT PROGRAM IN 5 BALTIMORE CITY, PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, AND WASHINGTON COUNTY.
- 6 (E) (1) A RECIPIENT IS ELIGIBLE FOR TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE 7 UNDER THE PILOT PROGRAM IF:
- 8 (I) THE RECIPIENT PARTICIPATES IN EDUCATION OR TRAINING 9 DIRECTLY RELATED TO EMPLOYMENT FOR MORE THAN 10 HOURS EACH WEEK;
- 10 (II) THE RECIPIENT'S TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE IS 11 TERMINATED UNDER § 5–312 OF THIS SUBTITLE FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH A WORK ACTIVITY REQUIREMENT;
- 13 (III) THE RECIPIENT MEETS ALL OTHER REQUIREMENTS OF THE 14 FIP; AND
- 15 (IV) THE RECIPIENT MEETS ANY OTHER REQUIREMENTS 16 ESTABLISHED BY REGULATION UNDER THIS SECTION.
- 17 **(2)** A RECIPIENT MAY NOT RECEIVE TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE 18 WHILE RECEIVING TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE PILOT PROGRAM.
- 19 (3) A RECIPIENT MAY NOT RECEIVE MORE THAN 1 YEAR OF 20 TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THIS SECTION.
- 21 (F) THE TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO A RECIPIENT UNDER 22 THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL BE EQUAL TO THE FIP BENEFIT THAT WOULD HAVE 23 BEEN PAID TO THE RECIPIENT.
- 24 (G) A RECIPIENT WHO HAS RECEIVED TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER 25 THIS SECTION MAY REAPPLY FOR THE FIP BENEFIT AND THE BENEFIT SHALL BE 26 FURNISHED WITH REASONABLE PROMPTNESS TO ALL ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.
- 27 (H) IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT ANY GENERAL 28 FUNDS APPROPRIATED FOR THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL SUPPLEMENT, AND NOT 29 SUPPLANT, FUNDS OTHERWISE APPROPRIATED FOR THE DEPARTMENT.
- 30 (I) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 EACH YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT, IN 31 CONSULTATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK,

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- 2 (1) COLLECT INFORMATION NECESSARY TO ASSESS THE 3 EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PILOT PROGRAM, INCLUDING:
- 4 (I) THE COST OF THE PILOT PROGRAM BY COUNTY;
- 5 (II) THE NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS RECEIVING FIP BENEFITS 6 AFTER RECEIVING TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE PILOT PROGRAM;
- 7 (III) THE EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND WAGE EARNINGS OF 8 RECIPIENTS; AND
- 9 (IV) ANY CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND WAGE 10 EARNINGS OF RECIPIENTS AFTER RECEIVING TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER 11 THE PILOT PROGRAM; AND
- 12 (2) REPORT ITS FINDINGS TO THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2–1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.
- 15 (J) THE SECRETARY SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE PILOT PROGRAM, INCLUDING REGULATIONS SPECIFYING:
- 17 (1) ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPANTS; AND
- 18 (2) QUALIFYING EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2019. It shall remain effective for a period of 5 years and, at the end of June 30, 2024, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.