

# SENATE BILL 686

O1

(3lr1947)

*ENROLLED BILL*  
— Finance/Appropriations —

Introduced by **Senator Garagiola**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President.

CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Investment Program – Earned Income Disregard Pilot Program**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing an Earned Income Disregard Pilot Program within  
4 the Family Investment Program; requiring the Department of Human  
5 Resources to select a certain ~~number of counties for participation~~ *type of county*  
6 *to participate* in the Pilot Program; *requiring the Department of Human*  
7 *Resources and certain directors of local departments of social services to select*  
8 *and inform participants; specifying certain eligibility requirements for*  
9 *participation in the program; authorizing the Department to select a rural county*  
10 *to participate in the Pilot Program;* requiring ~~a~~ *the* county that participates in  
11 the Pilot Program to administer benefits under the Family Investment Program  
12 in a certain manner; altering the amount of the earned income that is  
13 disregarded for the purpose of determining the amount of assistance an  
14 individual may receive under the Pilot Program; requiring the Department to  
15 collect and report certain information to certain committees of the General

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**EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

*Italics* indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 Assembly by certain dates; requiring the Department to adopt certain  
 2 regulations; defining a certain term; *providing for a delayed effective date*;  
 3 providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Earned  
 4 Income Disregard Pilot Program under the Family Investment Program.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
 6 Article – Human Services  
 7 Section 5–301(b) and 5–310(a)  
 8 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 9 (2007 Volume and 2012 Supplement)

10 BY adding to  
 11 Article – Human Services  
 12 Section 5–310.1  
 13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 14 (2007 Volume and 2012 Supplement)

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
 16 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 **Article – Human Services**

18 5–301.

19 (b) “FIP” means the Family Investment Program.

20 5–310.

21 (a) (1) For applicants to the FIP, the amount of assistance shall be  
 22 computed by counting no more than 4 weeks of earned income in any month and  
 23 disregarding 20% of that earned income.

24 (2) For eligible recipients who obtain unsubsidized employment, the  
 25 amount of assistance shall be computed by counting no more than 4 weeks of earned  
 26 income in any month and disregarding 40% of that earned income.

27 **5–310.1.**

28 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “PILOT PROGRAM” MEANS THE EARNED INCOME**  
 29 **DISREGARD PILOT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION.**

30 **(B) THERE IS AN EARNED INCOME DISREGARD PILOT PROGRAM**  
 31 **WITHIN THE FIP.**

32 **(C) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SELECT ONE COUNTY THAT HAS**  
 33 **MORE THAN ONE DISTRICT OFFICE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM.**

1           ~~(1) TWO OR MORE RURAL COUNTIES; AND~~

2           ~~(2) ONE URBAN OR SUBURBAN COUNTY.~~

3           (2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY SELECT ONE RURAL COUNTY TO  
4 PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM.

5           (3) THE DEPARTMENT AND THE APPROPRIATE LOCAL DIRECTORS  
6 SHALL:

7                   (I) SELECT AND ASSIGN ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS TO THE  
8 PILOT PROGRAM; AND

9                   (II) INFORM SELECTED PARTICIPANTS OF THE ASSIGNMENT.

10           ~~(3)~~ (4) TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT  
11 PROGRAM AN INDIVIDUAL:

12                   (I) MAY NOT RECEIVE TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE  
13 BETWEEN MAY 1, 2014 AND SEPTEMBER 30, 2014; AND

14                   (II) SHALL APPLY AND QUALIFY FOR TEMPORARY CASH  
15 ASSISTANCE ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2014.

16           (D) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION, THE  
17 ~~COUNTIES~~ COUNTY PARTICIPATING IN THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL  
18 ADMINISTER THE FIP IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE.

19           (E) (1) NOTWITHSTANDING § 5-310(A) OF THIS SUBTITLE, FOR  
20 APPLICANTS TO THE FIP WHO ARE SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT  
21 PROGRAM, THE AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE SHALL BE COMPUTED BY COUNTING  
22 NO MORE THAN 4 WEEKS OF EARNED INCOME IN ANY MONTH AND  
23 DISREGARDING 20% OF THAT EARNED INCOME.

24                   (2) NOTWITHSTANDING § 5-310(A) OF THIS SUBTITLE, FOR FIP  
25 RECIPIENTS WHO ARE SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM WHO  
26 OBTAIN UNSUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT AND WORK LESS THAN 25 HOURS A WEEK,  
27 THE AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE SHALL BE COMPUTED BY COUNTING NO MORE  
28 THAN 4 WEEKS OF EARNED INCOME IN ANY MONTH AND DISREGARDING 40% OF  
29 THAT EARNED INCOME.

30           ~~(2)~~ (3) FOR ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS NOTWITHSTANDING §  
31 5-310(A) OF THIS SUBTITLE, FOR FIP RECIPIENTS WHO ARE SELECTED TO

1 PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM WHO OBTAIN UNSUBSIDIZED  
2 EMPLOYMENT AND WORK AT LEAST 25 HOURS A WEEK, THE AMOUNT OF  
3 ASSISTANCE SHALL BE COMPUTED BY COUNTING NO MORE THAN 4 WEEKS OF  
4 EARNED INCOME IN ANY MONTH AND DISREGARDING:

5 (I) 100% OF THAT EARNED INCOME FOR THE FIRST 3  
6 MONTHS OF EMPLOYMENT;

7 (II) 60% OF THAT EARNED INCOME FOR EMPLOYMENT  
8 EXCEEDING 3 MONTHS, BUT LESS THAN 10 MONTHS; AND

9 (III) 40% OF THAT EARNED INCOME FOR EMPLOYMENT  
10 EXCEEDING 9 MONTHS.

11 (F) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

12 (1) COLLECT INFORMATION NECESSARY TO ASSESS THE  
13 EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PILOT PROGRAM, INCLUDING:

14 (I) THE NUMBER OF CLIENTS RECEIVING FIP BENEFITS  
15 AFTER RECEIVING BENEFITS UNDER THE PILOT PROGRAM;

16 (II) THE NUMBER OF CLIENTS WORKING FOR AN EMPLOYER  
17 COVERED BY MARYLAND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE; AND

18 (III) WHETHER THE CLIENTS MADE PROGRESS IN THEIR  
19 QUARTERLY EARNINGS; AND

20 (2) (I) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, ~~2015~~ 2016, SUBMIT AN  
21 INTERIM REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS TO THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE, THE  
22 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, AND THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON  
23 WELFARE REFORM, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE  
24 GOVERNMENT ARTICLE; AND

25 (II) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, ~~2016~~ 2017, SUBMIT A  
26 FINAL REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS TO THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE, THE  
27 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, AND THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON  
28 WELFARE REFORM, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE  
29 GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

30 (G) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT ANY REGULATIONS NECESSARY  
31 TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2 October 1, ~~2013~~ 2014. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of  
3 September 30, ~~2016~~ 2017, with no further action required by the General Assembly,  
4 this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.