

HOUSE BILL 261

By Dennis

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71,  
Chapter 3, Part 1, relative to certain assistance  
payments to parents or caretakers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-3-104(h)(2)(B)(i), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(i) The children in the family attend and maintain satisfactory academic progress in school;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-3-104(h)(2)(C)(ii), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(ii) Failure to comply with the personal responsibility plan as required under subdivision (h)(2)(B)(i), without good cause, shall result in a percentage reduction in the amount of thirty percent (30%) with regard to the temporary assistance payment for the parent or caretaker of any child who withdraws from school without good cause or who fails to maintain satisfactory academic progress at a secondary school as required by subdivision (g)(9) or at any school as may be required under title 49, chapter 6, part 30, until such time as compliance occurs. For the purposes of this section, satisfactory academic progress shall mean complying with the attendance requirements of title 49, chapter 6, part 30, and receiving a score of proficient or advanced on required state examinations in the subject areas of mathematics and reading/language arts, demonstrating competency as determined by the state board of education on two (2) end of course examinations, or maintaining a grade point average that is sufficient to ascend to the next grade. Failure to comply with attendance requirements, or to receive a proficient or advanced score or a grade point average sufficient to ascend to the next

grade, shall be a failure to comply with the personal responsibility plan required by this subsection. A student may attend a summer school course in the subject area in which the student has failed or has scored below proficient or failed to demonstrate competency. The student must receive a passing grade in such summer school course to achieve satisfactory academic progress. This subdivision (ii) relative to competency on required state examinations or grade point averages shall not apply to students who have Individualized Educational Placements (IEPs) and who are not academically talented or gifted. Failure to comply with the personal responsibility plan as required under subdivision (h)(2)(B)(ii), without good cause, shall result in a percentage reduction with regard to the temporary assistance payment in the amount of twenty-five percent (25%) until such time as compliance occurs.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013, the public welfare requiring it.