

LD2039312

HOUSE BILL NO. 2398

Offered January 23, 1995

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 63.1-110.2 relating to aid to families with dependent children.

Patron—Jones, J.C.

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 63.1-110.2 as follows:

§ 63.1-110.2. Workfare; exemptions to time-limited assistance.

The Commissioner shall establish and administer, through the local departments of social services, a community work experience program to be known as Workfare. Participation by a locality in Workfare shall be at the discretion of and at the option of the local governing body. The Commissioner shall endeavor to develop Workfare placements that will enable participants to develop job skills that are likely to result in independent employment and that take into consideration the proficiency, experience, skills and prior training of a participant. The State Board shall provide guidelines regarding the development of Workfare jobs so that such jobs will best benefit the participant and the community, serve a useful purpose and not result in the displacement of persons who are currently employed. Workfare employment shall be under reasonable working conditions in an environment that complies with federal, state and local health and safety standards. AFDC applicants and recipients in participating localities who are not exempt from the Job Opportunities and Basic Skills Training Program shall be required to participate in Workfare in order to receive AFDC financial assistance. The State Board shall promulgate regulations, including the number of hours a participant is required to work, to implement Workfare.

Any other provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, no applicant for, or recipient of, AFDC shall be denied assistance after the expiration of any time limit on the receipt of assistance where the applicant or recipient has been in compliance with Workfare requirements.

2. That the Secretary of Health and Human Resources shall apply for any federal waivers or approvals necessary to implement the provisions of this act and that the provisions or portions of this act requiring federal waivers or approvals shall become effective upon the receipt of such waivers and approvals, or on July 1, 1995, whichever is later.

INTRODUCED

HB2398