

1 HB6
2 186661-2
3 By Representatives Hanes and Whorton (R)
4 RFD: State Government
5 First Read: 09-JAN-18
6 PFD: 07/24/2017

2
3
4
5
6
7
8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, in certain
9 circumstances, a state may request a waiver from
10 the U.S. Department of Agriculture of the work
11 requirements that an able-bodied adult without
12 dependents must comply with in order to receive
13 assistance from the Supplemental Nutritional
14 Assistance Program (SNAP).

15 This bill would prohibit the Commissioner of
16 the Department of Human Resources from requesting a
17 waiver of federal work requirements for able-bodied
18 adults without dependents who are applicants or
19 recipients of the Supplemental Nutritional
20 Assistance Program.

21 This bill would require all able-bodied
22 adults without dependents who are applicants or
23 recipients of SNAP benefits to participate in
24 minimum work requirements, provide documentation of
25 engaging in work training, or participate in
26 volunteer community service and would provide
27 limited exemptions from these work requirements.

1
2 A BILL
3 TO BE ENTITLED
4 AN ACT
5

6 Relating to federal assistance; to prohibit the
7 Commissioner of the Department of Human Resources from
8 requesting a waiver of federal work requirements for
9 able-bodied adults without dependents who are applicants or
10 recipients of the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program
11 (SNAP); and to require all able-bodied adults without
12 dependents who are applicants or recipients of SNAP benefits
13 to participate in minimum work requirements, provide
14 documentation of engaging in work training, or participate in
15 volunteer community service and to provide limited exemptions
16 from these work requirements.

17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

18 Section 1. (a) As used in this section, an
19 able-bodied adult without dependents means an individual
20 between the ages of 18 and 49 who has no dependents and is not
21 disabled.

22 (b) The Commissioner of the Department of Human
23 Resources is prohibited from requesting a waiver of federal
24 work requirements for able-bodied adults without dependents
25 who are applicants or recipients of the Supplemental
26 Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP).

1 (c) The Department of Human Resources may not award
2 SNAP benefits to an applicant for or recipient of SNAP
3 benefits who is an able-bodied adult without dependents unless
4 the applicant or recipient meets one of the following
5 requirements:

6 (1) Works at least 20 hours per week, averaged
7 monthly.

8 (2) Provides documentation that the applicant is
9 taking reasonable, goal-orientated measures on an ongoing
10 basis to achieve short or long-term employment, that may
11 include, but not be limited to, enrollment in an education
12 program such as high school equivalency preparation or
13 prevocational training, job counseling, or job skills training
14 such as customized occupational training or general skills
15 training.

16 (3) Participates in volunteer community service
17 activities for up to the value of the food supplement benefit,
18 calculated by multiplying the state minimum wage by the number
19 of hours required to equal the SNAP benefit.

20 (d) The Commissioner of the Department of Human
21 Resources shall approve and make publicly available a list of
22 community agencies that may provide opportunities for
23 applicants and recipients to fulfill work requirements through
24 volunteer community service activities.

25 (e) An individual recipient of SNAP benefits who is
26 an able-bodied adult without dependents subject to the
27 requirements of this section who then loses his or her job or

1 volunteer community service position shall remain eligible to
2 receive SNAP benefits, if otherwise eligible, for an
3 additional period of three consecutive months without working
4 or participating in volunteer community service. This
5 additional three-month period of eligibility is available to
6 an able-bodied adult without dependents only once in any
7 36-month period.

8 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
9 first day of the third month following its passage and
10 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.