

1 HB114
2 134065-3
3 By Representative Long
4 RFD: State Government
5 First Read: 07-FEB-12
6 PFD: 02/02/2012

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, Temporary Assistance for
9 Needy Families (TANF) benefits may not be provided
10 to a family in which the grantee or spouse of the
11 grantee has received assistance for more than 60
12 months. Some families may receive federal TANF
13 assistance beyond 60 months if certain criteria are
14 satisfied.

15 This bill would limit the award of TANF
16 benefits to a lifetime cumulative total of 48
17 months beginning October 1, 2012, and a lifetime
18 cumulative total of 36 months beginning October 1,
19 2013, for all adult TANF recipients except those
20 who qualify for a hardship exemption.

21
22 A BILL
23 TO BE ENTITLED
24 AN ACT
25

1 Relating to public assistance; to further provide
2 for limitations on the lifetime cumulative total of TANF
3 assistance a person may receive; and to provide exemptions.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

5 Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited
6 as the Welfare Cap Act.

7 Section 2. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this
8 section, an applicant or recipient of funds provided by the
9 federal government under the TANF block grant shall receive
10 temporary cash assistance for no more than the following:

11 (1) A lifetime cumulative total of 48 months for an
12 applicant first receiving benefits on or after October 1,
13 2012, and prior to October 1, 2013.

14 (2) A lifetime cumulative total of 36 months for an
15 applicant first receiving benefits on or after October 1,
16 2013.

17 (b) Hardship exemptions to the time limitations
18 provided in this section shall be limited to 20 percent of the
19 average monthly caseload, as determined by the Department of
20 Human Resources. The department shall establish the criteria
21 and procedure for approving hardship exemptions.

22 (c) Temporary cash assistance received under a block
23 grant program that provided temporary assistance for needy
24 families in any other state shall count towards the cumulative
25 benefit limit for temporary cash assistance received in this
26 state.

1 (d) Child-only cases are not subject to time
2 limitations and temporary cash assistance received while an
3 individual is a minor shall not count towards the time
4 limitation.

5 Section 3. This act shall become effective on the
6 first day of the third month following its passage and
7 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.