

INTERGENERATIONAL POVERTY PROVISIONS

2012 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Stuart C. Reid

House Sponsor: Jeremy A. Peterson

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill modifies the Utah Workforce Services Code by enacting the Intergenerational Poverty Mitigation Act to monitor data related to intergenerational poverty.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms; and
- ▶ requires the Department of Workforce Services to establish and maintain a system to track intergenerational poverty related data to identify at-risk children and other groups, identify trends, and to assist case workers, social scientists, and government officials in the study and development of plans and programs to help individuals and families break the cycle of poverty.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

- 35A-8-101**, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 35A-8-102**, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 35A-8-201**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

30 Section 1. Section 35A-8-101 is enacted to read:

31 **CHAPTER 8. INTERGENERATIONAL POVERTY MITIGATION ACT**

32 **Part 1. General Provisions**

33 **35A-8-101. Title.**

34 This chapter is known as the "Intergenerational Poverty Mitigation Act."

35 Section 2. Section 35A-8-102 is enacted to read:

36 **35A-8-102. Definitions.**

37 As used in this chapter:

38 (1) "Cycle of poverty" or "poverty cycle" means the set of factors or events by which
39 the long-term poverty of a person is likely to continue and be experienced by each child of the
40 person when the child becomes an adult unless there is outside intervention.

41 (2) (a) "Intergenerational poverty" means poverty in which two or more successive
42 generations of a family continue in the cycle of poverty and government dependance.

43 (b) "Intergenerational poverty" does not include situational poverty.

44 (3) "Poverty" means the state of a person who lacks a usual or socially acceptable
45 amount of money or material possessions as demonstrated by the person's income level being at
46 or below the United States poverty level as defined by the most recently revised poverty
47 income guidelines published by the United States Department of Health and Human Services in
48 the Federal Register.

49 (4) "Situational poverty" means temporary poverty that:

50 (a) is generally traceable to a specific incident or time period within the lifetime of a
51 person; and

52 (b) is not continued to the next generation.

53 Section 3. Section 35A-8-201 is enacted to read:

54 **Part 2. Intergenerational Poverty Tracking System**

55 **35A-8-201. Intergenerational poverty tracking system -- Data -- Analysis --**

56 **Annual report.**

57 (1) The department shall establish and maintain a system to track intergenerational

- 58 poverty.
- 59 (2) The system shall:
- 60 (a) identify groups that have a high risk of experiencing intergenerational poverty;
- 61 (b) identify incidents, patterns, and trends that explain or contribute to
- 62 intergenerational poverty;
- 63 (c) assist case workers, social scientists, and government officials in the study and
- 64 development of effective and efficient plans and programs to help individuals and families in
- 65 the state to break the cycle of poverty; and
- 66 (d) gather and track available local, state, and national data on:
- 67 (i) official poverty rates;
- 68 (ii) child poverty rates;
- 69 (iii) years spent by individuals in childhood poverty;
- 70 (iv) years spent by individuals in adult poverty; and
- 71 (v) related poverty information.
- 72 (3) The department shall:
- 73 (a) use available data in the tracking system, including public assistance data, census
- 74 data, and other data made available to the department;
- 75 (b) develop and implement methods to integrate, compare, analyze, and validate the
- 76 data for the purposes described in Subsection (2);
- 77 (c) protect the privacy of individuals living in poverty by using and distributing data
- 78 within the tracking system in compliance with:
- 79 (i) federal requirements; and
- 80 (ii) the provisions of Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access and
- 81 Management Act; and
- 82 (d) no later than September 30 of each year, provide an annual report on the data,
- 83 findings, and potential uses of the tracking system to:
- 84 (i) the governor;
- 85 (ii) the Legislative Management Committee; and

86 (iii) the Legislature's Economic Development and Workforce Services Interim
87 Committee.