

FAMILY EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

AMENDMENTS

2007 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Dan R. Eastman

House Sponsor: Julie Fisher

Cosponsors:

John W. Hickman

Peter C. Knudson

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill modifies eligibility requirements for receiving cash assistance benefits under the Family Employment Program administered by the Employment Development Division of the Department of Workforce Services.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ provides that the division may not count up to a maximum of three months of transitional support cash payments received by a parent client toward the cash assistance time limits set for families in the Family Employment Program; and
- ▶ modifies the employment requirement for a parent client to receive additional cash assistance beyond the 36-month time limit set for families in the Family Employment Program.

Monies Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

35A-3-306, as last amended by Chapter 29, Laws of Utah 2004

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

31 Section 1. Section **35A-3-306** is amended to read:

32 **35A-3-306. Limits on eligibility.**

33 (1) For purposes of this section, "battered or subjected to extreme cruelty" is defined in
34 Section 103(a)(1) of P.L. 104-193 or 42 U.S.C. Sec. 608(a)(7)(C)(iii), The Personal
35 Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996.

36 (2) Except as provided in Subsection (4), the division may not provide cash assistance
37 to a family who has received cash assistance for 36 months or more.

38 (3) (a) The division shall count toward the 36-month time limit in Subsection (2) any
39 time after January 1, 1997, during which:

40 (i) the parent client received cash assistance in this or another state; and

41 (ii) the parent client is disqualified from receiving cash assistance and the parent client's
42 income and assets are counted in determining eligibility for the family in this or another state.

43 (b) (i) The division may not count toward the 36-month time limit in Subsection (2) or
44 the 24-month time period in Subsection (4) any time during which:

45 (A) a person 18 years of age or older received cash assistance as a minor child and not
46 as a parent[-]; or

47 (B) a parent client received transitional support cash assistance.

48 (ii) Transitional support cash assistance:

49 (A) may be paid if the department determines the assistance is necessary to stabilize
50 employment and prevent recidivism;

51 (B) is only available to a parent client who was previously receiving cash assistance
52 under the Family Employment Program but who becomes ineligible due to earned or unearned
53 income; and

54 (C) may be granted for a maximum of three months provided the parent client is
55 employed an average of 30 hours per week during the transitional period.

56 (4) (a) [~~On a month-to-month basis for~~] For up to 24 months, the division may provide
57 cash assistance to a family beyond the 36-month time limit in Subsection (2) if[~~-(i)~~] during the

58 previous [~~month~~] two months, the parent client was employed for no less than [~~80~~] 20 hours[;
59 and] per week.

60 [~~(ii) during at least six of the previous 24 months the parent client was employed for no
61 less than 80 hours a month.]~~

62 (b) For up to 20% of the average monthly number of families who receive cash
63 assistance under this part, the division may provide cash assistance to a family beyond the
64 36-month time limit in Subsection (2):

65 (i) by reason of a hardship; or

66 (ii) if the family includes an individual who has been battered or subjected to extreme
67 cruelty.

68 (c) For up to 20% of the average monthly number of families who receive cash
69 assistance under this part, the division may provide cash assistance to a family beyond the
70 additional 24-month time period in Subsection (4)(a):

71 (i) by reason of a hardship; or

72 (ii) if the family includes an individual who has been battered or subjected to extreme
73 cruelty.

74 (d) Except as provided in Subsections (4)(b) and (c), the division may not provide cash
75 assistance to a family who has received 60 months of cash assistance after October 1, 1996.