

**Senator Luz Escamilla** proposes the following substitute bill:

**GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM CHANGES**

2015 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Luz Escamilla**

House Sponsor: Edward H. Redd

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill modifies provisions related to the Department of Workforce Services' General Assistance program.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

► establishes that ~~H~~→ the first \$250,000 of ←~~H~~ reimbursements to the Department of Workforce Services ~~H~~→ collected in a fiscal year ←~~H~~ for General Assistance paid to a recipient while the recipient is awaiting the determination of federal Supplemental Security Income may be used by the department for the General Assistance program;

- makes funding for General Assistance nonlapsing; and
- makes technical changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**35A-3-401**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2004, Chapter 29



26 **63J-1-602.2**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2013, Chapter 338

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

29 Section 1. Section **35A-3-401** is amended to read:

30 **35A-3-401. General Assistance.**

31 (1) (a) The department may provide General Assistance [~~may be provided~~] to  
32 individuals who are:

33 (i) not receiving cash assistance under Part 3, Family Employment Program, or  
34 Supplemental Security Income[;]; and [~~who are~~]

35 (ii) unemployable according to standards established by the department.

36 (b) (i) General Assistance [~~may be provided by~~] described in Subsection (1)(a) may  
37 include payment in cash or in kind.

38 (ii) The [~~office~~] department may provide General Assistance up to an amount [less]  
39 that is no more than the existing payment level for an otherwise similarly situated [client of]  
40 recipient receiving cash assistance under Part 3, Family Employment Program.

41 (iii) Funding for General Assistance is nonlapsing.

42 (c) The [~~office~~] department shall establish asset limitations for a General Assistance  
43 [~~clients~~] applicant.

44 (d) (i) General Assistance may be granted to meet special nonrecurrent needs of an  
45 applicant for the federal Supplemental Security Income [~~program~~] for the Aged, Blind, and  
46 Disabled program provided under 20 C.F.R. Sec. 416, if the applicant agrees to reimburse the  
47 [~~division~~] department for assistance advanced to the applicant while awaiting the determination  
48 of eligibility by the Social Security Administration.

49 (ii) ~~H→~~ (a) [~~All reimbursements~~] **Reimbursements ←H** to the department described in  
49a Subsection (1)(d)(i) H→ up to and including \$250,000 collected in a fiscal year ←H shall be  
50 used by the department to administer the General Assistance program and provide General  
51 Assistance to eligible applicants.

51a ~~H→~~ (b) **Reimbursements to the department described in Subsection (1)(d)(i) over**  
51b **\$250,000 collected in a fiscal year shall be deposited into the General Fund. ←H**

52 [~~it~~] (iii) General Assistance payments may not be made to a [~~current client of~~]  
53 recipient currently receiving:

54 (A) cash assistance; or

55 (B) Supplemental Security Income.

56 (e) (i) General Assistance may be used for the reasonable cost of burial for a [~~client,~~]