

1 **SELF-RELIANCE TRAINING FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE**

2 **RECIPIENTS**

3 2016 GENERAL SESSION

4 STATE OF UTAH

5 **Chief Sponsor: Lincoln Fillmore**

6 House Sponsor: Steve Eliason

7

LONG TITLE

8 **General Description:**

9 This bill modifies provisions of the Utah Workforce Services Code.

10 **Highlighted Provisions:**

11 This bill:

- 12 ▶ defines "approved self-reliance training";
- 13 ▶ requires that a client receiving certain public assistance complete at least two hours
- 14 of approved self-reliance training within 90 days of receiving assistance ~~H→~~ [as a
- 15 condition of receiving assistance beyond 90 days] ←H ;

- 16 ▶ requires the Department of Workforce Services to seek a waiver, if federal law or
- 17 regulation ~~H→~~ [does not allow] prohibits requiring ←H self-reliance training ~~H→~~ [as a
- 18 condition of receiving public
- 18a assistance] ←H ;

- 19 ▶ describes what entities may offer approved self-reliance training; and
- 20 ▶ describes the reporting requirements of the department.

21 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

22 None

23 **Other Special Clauses:**

24 None

25 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

26 AMENDS:



121 Family Employment Program.

122 Section 2. Section 35A-3-116 is enacted to read:

123 **35A-3-116. Self-reliance training.**

124 (1) If the department determines that it is not prohibited under federal law or
 125 regulation, a client ~~H→~~ who is at least 21 years old, but who is younger than 65 years old,
 125a and who is ~~←H~~ receiving public assistance under this chapter ~~H→~~ , ~~←H~~ shall complete at
 125b least two

126 hours of approved self-reliance training within 90 days of the first day of receiving public
 127 assistance ~~H→~~ ~~[as a condition of continuing to receive public assistance beyond 90 days]~~ ~~←H~~ .

128 (2) If the department determines that federal law or regulation regarding a specific
 129 service or benefit under this chapter prohibits requiring a client to complete at least two hours
 130 of self-reliance training within 90 days of first receiving public assistance ~~H→~~ ~~[as a condition of~~
 131 continuing to receive the service or benefit] ~~←H~~ , the department shall:

132 (a) seek a waiver from the appropriate federal agency to allow requiring the training;
 133 and

134 (b) inform the client about the option of completing self-reliance training.

135 (3) The department shall ensure that approved self-reliance training:

136 (a) is designed to help ~~H→~~ ~~[participants] clients~~ ~~←H~~ learn to become financially stable
 136a and less
 137 dependent on government assistance;

138 (b) teaches skills and knowledge that will assist ~~H→~~ ~~[a participant] clients~~ ~~←H~~ in
 138a becoming self-reliant;

139 (c) is available at sufficient times and places to enable clients to reasonably complete
 140 the training; ~~H→~~ ~~[and]~~ ~~←H~~

141 (d) is offered at no cost to clients ~~H→~~ [:] ;

141a (e) includes an option for online training; and

141b (f) is provided and taught in a manner that is sensitive to the specific needs and
 141c challenges of clients, including:

141d (i) employment situations and work schedules;

141e (ii) health or disability related employment issues;

141f (iii) family care responsibilities and schedules; and

141g (iv) transportation issues; ~~←H~~

142 (4) Approved self-reliance training may be offered by the department or any of the
 143 following if approved by the department:

144 (a) a civic organization as defined in Section 35A-3-102;

144a ~~S→~~ (b) a for-profit entity; ~~←S~~

145 ~~§~~→ [(b)] (c) ←~~§~~ an educational institution; or

146 ~~§~~→ [(c)] (d) ←~~§~~ any state or local entity.

147 (5) The director may contract with a civic organization to provide approved
148 self-reliance training, if the director follows the procedures for contracting with a civic
149 organization for the provision of social capital as described in Section 35A-3-507.

150 (6) As part of the annual written report described in Section 35A-1-109, the department
151 shall:

- 152 (a) describe what entities are providing approved self-reliance training;
153 (b) provide the number of clients who have completed at least two hours of approved
154 self-reliance training;
155 (c) describe any services or benefits under this chapter that may not be conditioned on
156 the completion of self-reliance training because of federal law or regulation; and
157 (d) describe the response to any waiver request described in Subsection (2)(a).
157a **Ĥ→ (7) A client's completion of the approved self-reliance training described in**
157b **Subsection (1) is not a condition of the client continuing to receive public assistance. ←Ĥ**

Legislative Review Note
Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel