



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 660

February Session, 2008

* SB00660HS 031808 *

**AN ACT CONCERNING ESTABLISHMENT OF A FOOD STAMP
EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAM.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) The Department of Social
2 Services shall administer a food stamp employment and training
3 program, authorized under the federal Food Stamp Act of 1977, as
4 amended from time to time, to provide employment and training
5 activities, support services and other programs and services for
6 recipients of the food stamp program. The department shall maximize
7 the use of the fifty per cent federal matching funds provision under the
8 program to the fullest extent permitted by federal law.

9 (b) Federal grants received under the program shall be used in
10 accordance with federal law and regulations to fund food stamp
11 employment and training activities described in subsection (d) of this
12 section for recipients of the food stamp program.

13 (c) The department shall distribute federal funds received by the
14 state under the fifty per cent match provision to food stamp
15 employment and training providers whose expenditures generated
16 such federal matching funds in the relevant time period on a pro-rata
17 basis. Providers may include community-technical colleges, non-profit
18 agencies, adult education, philanthropic agencies, and other eligible
19 food stamp employment and training providers. Federal matching

20 funds received by such providers pursuant to this subsection shall be
21 used for employment and training activities described in subsection
22 (d) of this section and support services described in subsection (e) of
23 this section in accordance with the recommendations of the Child
24 Poverty and Prevention Council and its plan to reduce child poverty
25 developed pursuant to section 4-67x of the general statutes.

26 (d) Employment and training activities may include case
27 management; job search and work experience; education and training,
28 including adult basic education, high school equivalency preparation,
29 adult literacy classes, vocational training and post-secondary
30 education; tuition; reentry programs; and other such services that
31 improve employability.

32 (e) Support services for food stamp employment and training
33 program participants may include dependent care services;
34 transportation services; medical and dental services necessary for
35 employment; work, training or education-related items, including, but
36 not limited to, costs for uniforms, books or training manuals; and other
37 expenses reasonably necessary and directly related to participation in
38 an employment and training program.

39 (f) The department, in conjunction with the Child Poverty and
40 Prevention Council, shall work with local governments, community-
41 technical colleges, other educational institutions, community action
42 agencies and other entities to continue and expand efforts, within
43 available appropriations, to enroll eligible individuals in the food
44 stamp program and to enroll eligible food stamp participants in
45 education, employment and training activities.

46 (g) On or before January 15, 2009, and annually thereafter, the
47 Commissioner of Social Services, in consultation with the Child
48 Poverty and Prevention Council, shall report, in accordance with
49 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of
50 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human
51 services and appropriations on the amount of federal funding received

52 in the prior fiscal year pursuant to this section and the impact of the
53 programs utilized to reduce family poverty and promote
54 employability.

55 (h) The Commissioner of Social Services shall adopt regulations, in
56 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to
57 administer the program established pursuant to this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2008	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

Subsection (b) of section 1 was rewritten to clarify that the grants shall be used for purposes allowed under federal law and regulations. In subsection (d) of section 1, "medical and dental services necessary for employment" was moved to subsection (e) for accuracy and for compliance with federal law and regulations governing the food stamp employment and training program. In the first sentence in subsection (c) of section 1, "whose expenditures generated" was substituted for "that generate" for clarity.

HS *Joint Favorable Subst.*