



General Assembly

February Session, 2012

Raised Bill No. 209

LCO No. 1137

01137_____HS_

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:
(HS)

**AN ACT INCREASING EDUCATIONAL INCENTIVES IN THE JOBS
FIRST EMPLOYMENT SERVICES PROGRAM.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 17b-112k of the 2012 supplement to the general
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3 (*Effective from passage*):

4 (a) The Commissioner of Social Services and the Labor
5 Commissioner shall, within available appropriations, implement a
6 pilot program that serves not [more] less than one [hundred] thousand
7 persons who are receiving benefits under the temporary family
8 assistance program and participating in the Jobs First employment
9 services program as established by section 17b-688c. Participants will
10 receive vocational education and take courses leading to the
11 attainment of a high school diploma or its equivalent. [The pilot
12 program shall provide to participants: (1) Intensive case management
13 services to identify participants' (A) employment goals, (B) support
14 service needs, and (C) training, education and work experience needs;
15 (2) assistance in accessing needed support services, training, education
16 and work experience; and (3) funding to facilitate participation in

17 necessary adult basic education, skills training, postsecondary
18 education or subsidized employment.] Participation in the pilot
19 program shall be an allowable activity in which a participant may
20 engage as part of his or her employability plan developed pursuant to
21 section 17b-689c.

22 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) and (c) of
23 section 17b-112, the Commissioner of Social Services shall, within
24 available appropriations, grant [a] two six-month [extension]
25 extensions of time-limited cash assistance benefits to [any person who]
26 a family in which an adult is enrolled in the pilot program, provided
27 such family has (1) [has] made a good-faith effort to comply with the
28 requirements of the pilot program, (2) [has] not exceeded the sixty-
29 month limit, described in subsection (c) of section 17b-112, and (3) [has
30 not been granted more than two extensions] earned less than one
31 hundred per cent of the federal poverty level.

32 (c) Not later than October 1, [2012] 2013, the Commissioner of Social
33 Services and the Labor Commissioner shall jointly submit a report, in
34 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing
35 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
36 relating to human services and appropriations and the budgets of state
37 agencies concerning the pilot program. Such report shall include, but
38 shall not be limited to: (1) The number of persons participating in the
39 pilot program; (2) the education, training and work experience
40 activities of the participants; (3) [the support services identified as
41 needed by program participants through the provision of case
42 management services by the Department of Social Services and the
43 Labor Department and the support services actually received by each
44 program participant; (4)] the educational degrees and certificates
45 obtained by participants; and [(5)] (4) descriptions of the employment
46 obtained by participants as a result of the pilot program.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	17b-112k
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Statement of Purpose:

To increase educational incentives for participants in the Jobs First employment services program.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]