



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

Raised Bill No. 106

LCO No. 1048



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:
(HS)

AN ACT CONCERNING IMPROVING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH EDUCATION.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2014*) (a) The Commissioner of
2 Social Services and the Labor Commissioner shall permit a recipient of
3 temporary family assistance to take education courses as part of the
4 requirements of the recipient's employability plan, established
5 pursuant to section 17b-689c of the general statutes, provided: (1) The
6 state complies with federal work participation requirements for the
7 employment services program established pursuant to section 17b-
8 688c of the general statutes, and (2) the education courses are
9 approved pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

10 (b) To the extent permissible under federal law, the Labor
11 Commissioner, in consultation with the Commissioner of Social
12 Services, may approve education courses as required employment
13 activities for a recipient of temporary family assistance. Education
14 courses that may be approved include, but are not limited to: (1) Two-
15 year or four-year college degree programs, and (2) high school

16 graduate equivalency degree or basic education programs for
17 recipients otherwise ineligible to enroll in such programs during their
18 first twenty weekly hours of required employment activities.

19 (c) The Labor Commissioner, in consultation with the Commissioner
20 of Social Services, shall implement policies and procedures to establish
21 (1) which programs may qualify as an approved employment activity,
22 and (2) enrollment and academic requirements for students who are
23 recipients of temporary family assistance. The Labor Commissioner
24 shall implement such policies and procedures while in the process of
25 adopting such policies and procedures in regulation form, provided
26 the Labor Commissioner provides notice of intent to adopt the
27 regulations in accordance with section 4-168 of the general statutes not
28 later than twenty days after implementing such policies and
29 procedures. Policies and procedures implemented pursuant to this
30 subsection shall be valid until the time final regulations are effective.

31 (d) Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring the state
32 to pay for the tuition of any recipient of temporary family assistance.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To improve job prospects for recipients of temporary family assistance by allowing them to pursue education as part of approved work activities.

[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.]