
OLR Bill Analysis

SB 285

AN ACT CONCERNING TIME LIMITS IN THE TEMPORARY FAMILY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM DURING A STATE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY.

SUMMARY

By law, Temporary Family Assistance (TFA) provides cash assistance to families, generally subject to a 21-month time limit with up to two six-month extensions. Current law excludes from this time limit any months of TFA benefits received during a public health emergency declared by Governor Ned Lamont. This bill instead allows the Department of Social Services commissioner to exclude from the time limit any months of benefits received during a state public health emergency, including emergencies declared by the governor or the legislature related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The commissioner may do so at her discretion, in consultation with the Office of Policy and Management secretary.

Existing law also exempts certain families from the time limit (e.g., a family with a needy caretaker relative who is incapacitated or of an advanced age).

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 13 Nay 7 (03/17/2022)