

March 25, 1969
Placed on Calendar

HOUSE FILE 658

Social Services 4-15, Pass 4-25 By COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES

Passed House, Date 4-11-69 Passed Senate, Date 5-14-69

Vote: Ayes 74 Nays 0 Vote: Ayes 78 Nays 0

Approved May 19, 1969

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to assistance paid needy blind persons.

2 *Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

3 Section 1. Section two hundred forty-one point three
4 (241.3), Code 1966, as amended by chapter two hundred nine
5 (209), section three hundred (300), and chapter two hundred
6 twelve (212), section one (1), Acts of the Sixty-second
7 General Assembly, is hereby repealed and the following enacted
8 in lieu thereof:

9 "The minimum presumed need of each blind applicant for or
10 recipient of assistance under this chapter shall be no less
11 than one hundred forty dollars per month. The amount of as-
12 sistance together with other nonexempt income and resources,
12 except inconsequential income and resources, shall be no less
14 than one hundred forty dollars per month. In determining the
15 amount of assistance which shall be paid, personal property in
16 the amount of one thousand five hundred dollars for a single
17 person and two thousand dollars for a married couple shall be
18 disregarded, and personal property shall not include foodstuffs
19 household furnishings, and a motor vehicle necessary for
20 transportation.

21 "The amount of assistance shall be fixed with due regard
22 to the condition of the individual, including all resources
23 available to the applicant or recipient, household situation
24 and community in each instance, together with the essential
25 need due to the individual's mental or physical condition,

1 subject to the rules, regulations, and standards adopted by
2 the state director; provided, however, that in determining
3 the eligibility of an individual claiming aid to the blind, or
4 in determining the amount of such aid, five dollars per month
5 of any income shall be disregarded and the first eighty-five
6 dollars per month of earned income, plus one-half of earned
7 income in excess of eighty-five dollars, of such individual
8 shall be disregarded, and for a period not in excess of twelve
9 months, such additional amounts of other income and resources,
10 in the case of an individual who has a plan for achieving
11 self-support approved by the state director shall be
12 disregarded.”

EXPLANATION OF HOUSE FILE 658

This bill will establish a basic minimum standard of need applicable to needy blind persons in Iowa and specifies the amount of personal property which shall be disregarded in determining eligibility for assistance or the amount of assistance. Every effort should be made to rehabilitate blind persons, and those who cannot be rehabilitated need a basic minimum standard of income adequate to provide for reasonable food, clothing, shelter and other necessities of life. The personal property exemptions would make it possible for some recipients to retain resources necessary to meet emergencies and to encourage greater efforts at achieving self-support.

- 1 Amend House File 658 as follows:
2 1. By striking from line eleven (11) of page one (1) the
3 words "one hundred forty dollars per month" and inserting in
4 lieu thereof the words "one thousand six hundred dollars per
5 year".
6 2. By striking from lines thirteen (13) and fourteen (14)
7 of page one (1) the words "no less than one hundred forty dollars
8 per month" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "one thousand
9 six hundred dollars per year".

Filed
May 9, 1969

withdrawn
5-14

By KOSEK

FISCAL NOTE
HOUSE FILE 658

Date prepared April 22, 1969

Requested by Senator Kosek.

Prepared in regard to House File 658, a bill for an act relating to assistance paid needy blind persons.

Following is the fiscal effect in dollars of the legislative proposal as required by Rule 47:

1st year	\$43,000
2nd year	43,000
3rd year	43,000
4th year	43,000
5th year	43,000

Note: The department of social services raised the question of what the \$140 per month minimum might do to the eligibility of blind persons for coverage under Medicaid. They have a minimum income requirement of \$1,680 per year.

Filed
April 23, 1969

GERRY D. RANKIN
Legislative Fiscal Director