

Tinsman
Veenstra
Szymoniak

SSB-1121
Human Resource

Succeeded By
SENATE/HOUSE FILE HF 221
BY (PROPOSED DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN SERVICES BILL)

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to welfare reform provisions involving the family
2 investment program and individual development accounts.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1, Section 239B.2, subsection 4, Code 1999, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 4. WRITTEN STATEMENT -- FAMILY INVESTMENT AGREEMENT.

4 a. The department may require an applicant family to
5 commit to the initial actions the applicant family will take
6 to achieve self-sufficiency as contained in a signed, written
7 statement. An applicant family which fails to commit to the
8 actions as contained in the written statement shall be denied
9 eligibility for the family investment program. If the
10 applicant family becomes a participant family, the family's
11 written statement may be replaced by, incorporated within, or
12 become the family investment agreement for that family.

13 b. Unless exempt as provided in section 239B.8, a
14 participant family which is eligible for the program shall
15 continue to comply with the provisions of a written statement
16 which contains actions committed to by the family under
17 paragraph "a" or shall enter into a family investment
18 agreement with the department. A participant family must
19 comply with the provisions of the written statement or the
20 conditions in the agreement in order to retain eligibility. A
21 participant family which does not comply shall be deemed to
22 have chosen a limited benefit plan.

23 Sec. 2. Section 239B.3, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code
24 1999, is amended to read as follows:

25 b. For an eligibility decision involving an applicant
26 family with a specified relative, within thirty days of the
27 date of an application, the department shall ~~issue-a~~ authorize
28 issuance of notice of the department's decision to the
29 specified relative.

30 Sec. 3. Section 239B.9, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code
31 1999, is amended to read as follows:

32 a. If a participant responsible for signing and fulfilling
33 the terms of a family investment agreement, as defined by the
34 director of human services in accordance with section 239B.8,
35 chooses not to sign or fulfill the terms of the agreement, the

1 participant's family, or the individual participant shall
 2 enter into a limited benefit plan. Initial actions in a
 3 written statement under section 239B.2, subsection 4, which
 4 were committed to by a participant during the application
 5 period and which commitment remains in effect, shall be
 6 considered to be a term of the participant's family investment
 7 agreement. A limited benefit plan shall apply for the period
 8 of time specified in this section. The first month of the
 9 limited benefit plan is the first month after the month in
 10 which timely and adequate notice of the limited benefit plan
 11 is given to the participant as defined by the director of
 12 human services. A participant who is exempt from the JOBS
 13 program but who volunteers for the program is not subject to
 14 imposition of a limited benefit plan. The elements of a
 15 limited benefit plan shall be specified in the department's
 16 rules.

17 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 541A.6 COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL
 18 REQUIREMENTS.

19 The administrator shall adopt rules for compliance with
 20 federal individual development account requirements under the
 21 federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity
 22 Reconciliation Act of 1996, § 103, as codified in 42 U.S.C. §
 23 604(h), under the federal Assets for Independence Act, Pub. L.
 24 No. 105-285, Title IV, or with any other federal individual
 25 development account program requirements, as necessary for the
 26 state to qualify to use federal temporary assistance for needy
 27 families block grant funding or other available federal
 28 funding for allocation to operating organizations. Any rules
 29 adopted under this section shall not apply the federal
 30 individual development account program requirements to an
 31 operating organization which does not utilize federal funding
 32 for the accounts with which it is connected or to an account
 33 holder who does not receive temporary assistance for needy
 34 families block grant or other federal funding.

35 EXPLANATION

1 This bill relates to welfare reform provisions involving
2 the family investment program (FIP) and individual development
3 accounts.

4 The amendments to the family investment program in Code
5 section 239B.2 authorize the department of human services to
6 require, as a condition of eligibility, a FIP applicant to
7 commit to initial steps the applicant will take to achieve
8 self-sufficiency in a signed, written statement. Failure to
9 commit to the initial steps results in denial of eligibility.
10 The statement may be required in addition to being
11 incorporated within, or becoming part of, the family
12 investment agreement. A FIP participant is required to comply
13 with the provisions of the written statement.

14 Code section 239B.3, relating to issuance of cash
15 assistance to FIP-eligible families with a specified relative,
16 is amended. Under current law, notice of the department's
17 eligibility decision must be issued within 30 days. Under the
18 bill, authorization for the notice must be issued within 30
19 days.

20 According to limited benefit plan provisions in Code
21 section 239B.9, a participant who does not sign or fulfill the
22 terms of a family investment agreement is subject to a limited
23 benefit plan. Under the bill, the provisions of the written
24 statement committed to during the application period and which
25 remain in effect, are to be considered to be a term of a
26 participant's family investment agreement.

27 New Code section 541A.6 requires the department of human
28 services to adopt rules for compliance with federal
29 requirements for individual development account programs as
30 necessary to qualify to utilize federal funding for allocation
31 to Iowa's individual development account operating
32 organizations. The bill refers to specific federal temporary
33 assistance for needy families (TANF) block grant provisions
34 for individual development accounts, and to the federal Assets
35 for Independence Act, and to general federal provisions for

1 these accounts. The rules are not to apply the federal
2 requirements to operating organizations which do not utilize
3 federal funding for their accounts or to account holders who
4 do not receive TANF or other federal funding.

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TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

CHARLES M. PALMER, DIRECTOR

January 13, 1999

TO: Members of the General Assembly

FROM: Karla Fultz McHenry, Legislative Liaison

The Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) is proposing legislation relating to welfare reform provisions involving the Family Investment Program (FIP) and Individual Development Accounts.

The amendments to the Family Investment Program in Code section 239B.2 authorize the Department of Human Services to require FIP applicants to enter into a Family Investment Agreement or similar written plan as a condition of eligibility. Under current law, this requirement applies once an applicant is accepted as a program participant. The Family Investment Agreement provisions outline a plan for a family to achieve self-sufficiency and the FIP assistance is limited by that agreement.

According to Limited Benefit Plan provisions in Code section 239B.9, a participant who does not sign or fulfill a Family Investment Agreement is subject to a Limited Benefit Plan. The bill provides that if an applicant is required to enter into a Family Investment Agreement or other written plan, the Limited Benefit Plan provisions shall not apply to that applicant. However, the application will be denied for failure to cooperate with an eligibility factor.

An amendment to the Family Investment Program in Code section 239B.3 allows the Department of Human Services one additional day to mail notice to an applicant regarding their eligibility for benefits. This change allows the department to align Family investment Program policy with Food Stamp Program policy so applicants for both programs may receive a single notification regarding their eligibility for benefits.

New Code section 541A.6 requires the Department of Human Services to adopt rules for compliance with federal requirements for Individual Development Account programs as necessary to qualify to utilize federal funding for allocation to Iowa's Individual Development Account operating organizations. The bill refers to specific federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant provisions, federal Assets for Independence Act (AFIA) matching funds for individual development accounts, and to general federal provisions for these accounts. The rules are not to apply the federal requirements to operating organizations which do not utilize federal funding for their account or to account holders who do not receive TANF, AFIA, or other federal funding.

For additional information regarding this proposal, or other questions, please contact Karla McHenry, Legislative Liaison, at 281-4848 or e-mail at kmchenr@dhs.state.ia.us.

Substituted for HF 632
4/26/99
(P. 1653)

FILED FEB 24 1999

SENATE FILE 221
BY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1121)

Passed Senate, Date 3/25/99 (P. 798) Passed House, Date 4/26/99 (P. 1655)
Vote: Ayes 46 Nays 0 Vote: Ayes 96 Nays 0

Approved May 10, 1999
(P. 1323) Reported 4-27-99
Vote 47-0

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SF 221

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13 b. Unless exempt as provided in section 239B.8, a
14 participant family which is eligible for the program shall
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5 period and which commitment remains in effect, shall be
6 considered to be a term of the participant's family investment
7 agreement. A limited benefit plan shall apply for the period
8 of time specified in this section. The first month of the
9 limited benefit plan is the first month after the month in
10 which timely and adequate notice of the limited benefit plan
11 is given to the participant as defined by the director of
12 human services. A participant who is exempt from the JOBS
13 program but who volunteers for the program is not subject to
14 imposition of a limited benefit plan. The elements of a
15 limited benefit plan shall be specified in the department's
16 rules.

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18 REQUIREMENTS.

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20 federal individual development account requirements under the
21 federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity
22 Reconciliation Act of 1996, § 103, as codified in 42 U.S.C. §
23 604(h), under the federal Assets for Independence Act, Pub. L.
24 No. 105-285, Title IV, or with any other federal individual
25 development account program requirements, as necessary for the
26 state to qualify to use federal temporary assistance for needy
27 families block grant funding or other available federal
28 funding for allocation to operating organizations. Any rules
29 adopted under this section shall not apply the federal
30 individual development account program requirements to an
31 operating organization which does not utilize federal funding
32 for the accounts with which it is connected or to an account
33 holder who does not receive temporary assistance for needy
34 families block grant or other federal funding.

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EXPLANATION

1 This bill relates to welfare reform provisions involving
2 the family investment program (FIP) and individual development
3 accounts.

4 The amendments to the family investment program in Code
5 section 239B.2 authorize the department of human services to
6 require, as a condition of eligibility, a FIP applicant to
7 commit to initial steps the applicant will take to achieve
8 self-sufficiency in a signed, written statement. Failure to
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10 The statement may be required in addition to being
11 incorporated within, or becoming part of, the family
12 investment agreement. A FIP participant is required to comply
13 with the provisions of the written statement.

14 Code section 239B.3, relating to issuance of cash
15 assistance to FIP-eligible families with a specified relative,
16 is amended. Under current law, notice of the department's
17 eligibility decision must be issued within 30 days. Under the
18 bill, authorization for the notice must be issued within 30
19 days.

20 According to limited benefit plan provisions in Code
21 section 239B.9, a participant who does not sign or fulfill the
22 terms of a family investment agreement is subject to a limited
23 benefit plan. Under the bill, the provisions of the written
24 statement committed to during the application period and which
25 remain in effect, are to be considered to be a term of a
26 participant's family investment agreement.

27 New Code section 541A.6 requires the department of human
28 services to adopt rules for compliance with federal
29 requirements for individual development account programs as
30 necessary to qualify to utilize federal funding for allocation
31 to Iowa's individual development account operating
32 organizations. The bill refers to specific federal temporary
33 assistance for needy families (TANF) block grant provisions
34 for individual development accounts, and to the federal Assets
35 for Independence Act, and to general federal provisions for

1 these accounts. The rules are not to apply the federal
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3 federal funding for their accounts or to account holders who
4 do not receive TANF or other federal funding.

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**SENATE FILE 221
FISCAL NOTE**

A fiscal note for Senate File 221 is hereby submitted pursuant to Joint Rule 17. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau to members of the Legislature upon request.

Senate File 221 adds Iowa Code Section 541A.6 requiring the Department of Human Services to adopt rules for compliance with federal requirements to qualify for federal funding for the Individual Development Account Program.

BACKGROUND

The Individual Development Account Program is offered through Iowa's Family Investment Program. The Program offers special savings accounts for individuals with incomes up to 200.0% of the federal poverty level. The accounts offer low-income individuals the opportunity to save for specified purchases and to have such savings matched by local operating organizations. Local operating organizations determine match rates on an individual basis, but the match rate is commonly \$1 for each \$1 the individual deposits. The Department of Human Services is proposing that \$200,000 in federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funds be used to expand the Program to an additional five local operating organizations.

ASSUMPTIONS

1. The Individual Development Account Program will qualify for federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant funding.
2. No State dollars will be required for the Program.
3. The FY 2000 Department of Human Services budget request includes \$200,000 in federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funding for the Individual Development Account Program.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact of Senate File 221 will be \$200,000 per year, funded through federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funds.

SOURCE

Department of Human Services

(LSB 1260SV, DAA)

FILED MARCH 1, 1999

BY DENNIS PROUTY, FISCAL DIRECTOR

SENATE FILE 221

H-1582

1 Amend Senate File 221, as passed by the Senate, as
2 follows:

3 1. Page 2, by inserting after line 34 the
4 following:

5 "Sec. ____ . SELF-EMPLOYMENT LOAN PROGRAM --
6 INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNTS. Notwithstanding
7 section 15.241, for the period beginning July 1, 1999,
8 and ending June 30, 2000, a portion of the funds
9 available under the self-employment loan program
10 account may be made available to provide matching
11 funds for individual development accounts under
12 chapter 541A. Self-employment loan program funding
13 allocated for individual development accounts shall be
14 used by account holders to start a business, acquire
15 employment-related training or postsecondary
16 education, or purchase a primary residence. The
17 allocation of loan program funding to individual
18 development account holders may be made in the form of
19 loans or grants. A majority of the loan program funds
20 allocated for individual development accounts must be
21 used to start a business or to acquire training. The
22 department of economic development shall adopt rules
23 governing the administration of this provision. In
24 addition, the department of economic development and
25 the department of human services shall coordinate the
26 use of self-employment loan program funds for
27 individual development accounts."

28 2. By renumbering as necessary.

By BOAL of Polk

H-1582 FILED APRIL 13, 1999

W/P
4/26/99 (P. 1654)

SENATE FILE 221

H-1810

1 Amend Senate File 221, as passed by the Senate, as
2 follows:

3 1. Page 2, by inserting after line 34 the
4 following:

5 "Sec. ____ SELF-EMPLOYMENT LOAN PROGRAM --
6 INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNTS.

7 1. Notwithstanding section 15.241, for the period
8 beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2000, a
9 portion of the funds available under the self-
10 employment loan program account may be made available
11 to provide matching funds for individual development
12 accounts under chapter 541A. Self-employment loan
13 program funding allocated for individual development
14 accounts shall be used by account holders to start a
15 business, acquire employment-related training or
16 postsecondary education, or purchase a primary
17 residence. The allocation of loan program funding to
18 individual development account holders may be made in
19 the form of loans or grants. A majority of the loan
20 program funds allocated for individual development
21 accounts must be used to start a business or to
22 acquire training. The department of economic
23 development shall adopt rules governing the
24 administration of this provision. In addition, the
25 department of economic development and the department
26 of human services shall coordinate the use of self-
27 employment loan program funds for individual
28 development accounts.

29 2. In order to implement the provisions of this
30 section, the department of human services may contract
31 with an established, statewide nonprofit community
32 development corporation. The corporation must have a
33 national reputation and demonstrated experience in
34 poverty alleviation and asset-building programs for
35 persons with low income, long-term involvement in the
36 national individual development account movement;
37 statewide capacity and infrastructure, expertise in
38 program evaluation, and experience in managing and
39 implementing large-scale federal grants."

40 2. By renumbering as necessary.

By BOAL of Polk

H-1810 FILED APRIL 26, 1999

Adopted
4/26/99
(p. 1655)

S-3480

1 Amend Senate File 221, as passed by the Senate, as
2 follows:

3 1. Page 2, by inserting after line 34 the
4 following:

5 "Sec. ____ . SELF-EMPLOYMENT LOAN PROGRAM --
6 INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNTS.

7 1. Notwithstanding section 15.241, for the period
8 beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2000, a
9 portion of the funds available under the self-
10 employment loan program account may be made available
11 to provide matching funds for individual development
12 accounts under chapter 541A. Self-employment loan
13 program funding allocated for individual development
14 accounts shall be used by account holders to start a
15 business, acquire employment-related training or
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18 individual development account holders may be made in
19 the form of loans or grants. A majority of the loan
20 program funds allocated for individual development
21 accounts must be used to start a business or to
22 acquire training. The department of economic
23 development shall adopt rules governing the
24 administration of this provision. In addition, the
25 department of economic development and the department
26 of human services shall coordinate the use of self-
27 employment loan program funds for individual
28 development accounts.

29 2. In order to implement the provisions of this
30 section, the department of human services may contract
31 with an established, statewide nonprofit community
32 development corporation. The corporation must have a
33 national reputation and demonstrated experience in
34 poverty alleviation and asset-building programs for
35 persons with low income, long-term involvement in the
36 national individual development account movement,
37 statewide capacity and infrastructure, expertise in
38 program evaluation, and experience in managing and
39 implementing large-scale federal grants."

40 2. By renumbering as necessary.

RECEIVED FROM THE HOUSE

S-3480 FILED APRIL 26, 1999

*Senate Concurred (p 1323)
4-27-99*

AN ACT

RELATING TO WELFARE REFORM PROVISIONS INVOLVING THE FAMILY
INVESTMENT PROGRAM AND INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. Section 239B.2, subsection 4, Code 1999, is amended to read as follows:

4. WRITTEN STATEMENT -- FAMILY INVESTMENT AGREEMENT.

a. The department may require an applicant family to commit to the initial actions the applicant family will take to achieve self-sufficiency as contained in a signed, written statement. An applicant family which fails to commit to the actions as contained in the written statement shall be denied eligibility for the family investment program. If the applicant family becomes a participant family, the family's written statement may be replaced by, incorporated within, or become the family investment agreement for that family.

b. Unless exempt as provided in section 239B.8, a participant family which is eligible for the program shall continue to comply with the provisions of a written statement which contains actions committed to by the family under paragraph "a" or shall enter into a family investment agreement with the department. A participant family must comply with the provisions of the written statement or the conditions in the agreement in order to retain eligibility. A participant family which does not comply shall be deemed to have chosen a limited benefit plan.

Sec. 2. Section 239B.3, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code 1999, is amended to read as follows:

b. For an eligibility decision involving an applicant family with a specified relative, within thirty days of the date of an application, the department shall ~~issue-a~~ authorize

issuance of notice of the department's decision to the specified relative.

Sec. 3. Section 239B.9, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code 1999, is amended to read as follows:

a. If a participant responsible for signing and fulfilling the terms of a family investment agreement, as defined by the director of human services in accordance with section 239B.8, chooses not to sign or fulfill the terms of the agreement, the participant's family, or the individual participant shall enter into a limited benefit plan. Initial actions in a written statement under section 239B.2, subsection 4, which were committed to by a participant during the application period and which commitment remains in effect, shall be considered to be a term of the participant's family investment agreement. A limited benefit plan shall apply for the period of time specified in this section. The first month of the limited benefit plan is the first month after the month in which timely and adequate notice of the limited benefit plan is given to the participant as defined by the director of human services. A participant who is exempt from the JOBS program but who volunteers for the program is not subject to imposition of a limited benefit plan. The elements of a limited benefit plan shall be specified in the department's rules.

Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 541A.6 COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS.

The administrator shall adopt rules for compliance with federal individual development account requirements under the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, § 103, as codified in 42 U.S.C. § 604(h), under the federal Assets for Independence Act, Pub. L. No. 105-285, Title IV, or with any other federal individual development account program requirements, as necessary for the state to qualify to use federal temporary assistance for needy families block grant funding or other available federal

funding for allocation to operating organizations. Any rules adopted under this section shall not apply the federal individual development account program requirements to an operating organization which does not utilize federal funding for the accounts with which it is connected or to an account holder who does not receive temporary assistance for needy families block grant or other federal funding.

Sec. 5. SELF-EMPLOYMENT LOAN PROGRAM -- INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNTS.

1. Notwithstanding section 15.241, for the period beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2000, a portion of the funds available under the self-employment loan program account may be made available to provide matching funds for individual development accounts under chapter 541A. Self-employment loan program funding allocated for individual development accounts shall be used by account holders to start a business, acquire employment-related training or postsecondary education, or purchase a primary residence. The allocation of loan program funding to individual development account holders may be made in the form of loans or grants. A majority of the loan program funds allocated for individual development accounts must be used to start a business or to acquire training. The department of economic development shall adopt rules governing the administration of this provision. In addition, the department of economic development and the department of human services shall coordinate the use of self-employment loan program funds for individual development accounts.

2. In order to implement the provisions of this section, the department of human services may contract with an established, statewide nonprofit community development corporation. The corporation must have a national reputation and demonstrated experience in poverty alleviation and asset-building programs for persons with low income, long-term involvement in the national individual development account

movement, statewide capacity and infrastructure, expertise in program evaluation, and experience in managing and implementing large-scale federal grants.

MARY E. KRAMER
President of the Senate

BRENT SIEGRIST
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that this bill originated in the Senate and is known as Senate File 221, Seventy-eighth General Assembly.

MICHAEL E. MARSHALL
Secretary of the Senate

Approved May 10, 1999

THOMAS J. VILSACK
Governor