SENATE FILE BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS BILL BY CHAIRPERSON BOLKCOM)

Passed	Senate,	Date	Passed	House,	Date	
Vote:	Ayes	Nays	Vote:	Ayes	Nays	3
Approved						

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to providing information to certain persons about the availability of volunteer income tax assistance programs and the federal and state earned income tax credits. 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

5 TLSB 6067SC 82

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- 1 Section 1. <u>NEW SECTION</u>. 2 2 INCOME TAX CREDIT INFORMATION. 217.47 DISTRIBUTION OF EARNED
 - 1. The department shall ensure that educational materials 4 relating to the federal and state earned income tax credits 5 are provided in accordance with this section to each person 6 receiving assistance or benefits under:
 - a. The hawk=i program under chapter 514I.
 - The family investment program under chapter 239B. The medical assistance Act under chapter 249A. b.

 - d. The food programs defined in section 234.1.
- 1 11 e. Any other appropriate programs administered by, or
- 12 under the oversight, of the department of human services.
 13 2. The department shall, by mail or through the internet, 1 13 1 14 provide a person described in subsection 1 with access to:
- a. Internal revenue service publications relating to the 1 16 federal earned income tax credit.
- b. Department of revenue publications relating to the 1 18 state earned income tax credit.
- 1 19 c. Information prepared by tax preparers who provide free 1 20 federal or state income tax preparation services to low=income 1 21 and other eligible persons and who are located in close
- 22 geographic proximity to the person.
 23 3. In January of each year, the department or a 1 24 representative of the department shall mail to each person 25 described in subsection 1 information about the federal and 26 state earned income tax credit that provides the person with 1 27 referrals to the resources described in subsection 2.
 - Sec. 2. Section 252B.5, Code Supplement 2007, is amended

29 by adding the following new subsection:

- NEW SUBSECTION. 4A. a. In order to maximize the amount 1 31 of any tax refund to which an obligor may be entitled and 32 which may be applied to child support and medical support 33 obligations, cooperate with any volunteer income tax 34 assistance programs in the state in informing obligors of the 35 availability of the programs.
 - b. The child support recovery unit shall publicize the 2 services of the volunteer income tax assistance programs by 3 distributing printed materials regarding the programs.

EXPLANATION This bill relates to income tax assistance to be provided 6 by the department of human services.

The bill directs the department to provide to certain 8 individuals materials and publications related to the federal 9 and state earned income tax credits. These individuals are 10 those in the child health (hawk=i) program, the family 11 assistance program, the medical assistance programs, the food 2 12 stamp program, and other appropriate programs administered or 2 13 overseen by the department. The publications or materials 14 provided would be those from the internal revenue service, the 2 15 department of revenue, and tax preparers that provide services 2 16 to low=income and other eligible persons.

The bill also requires the child support recovery unit to

- 2 18 assist obligors of child support and medical support 2 19 obligations to maximize their tax refunds by publicizing the 2 20 services of volunteer income tax assistance programs and by 2 21 distributing materials regarding the programs. 2 22 LSB 6067SC 82 2 23 mg/sc/5