

**Senate File 2251 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 2251  
BY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN  
RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 2143)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the state child care assistance program  
2 eligibility and application provisions.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 237A.13, subsection 7, paragraphs a and  
2 c, Code 2014, are amended to read as follows:

3 a. Families with an income at or below one hundred percent  
4 of the federal poverty level whose members ~~are employed~~, for  
5 at least twenty-eight hours per week in the aggregate, are  
6 employed or are participating at a satisfactory level in an  
7 approved training program or educational program, and parents  
8 with a family income at or below one hundred percent of the  
9 federal poverty level who are under the age of twenty-one years  
10 and are participating in an educational program leading to a  
11 high school diploma or the equivalent.

12 c. Families with an income of more than one hundred percent  
13 but not more than one hundred forty-five percent of the  
14 federal poverty level whose members ~~are employed~~, for at least  
15 twenty-eight hours per week in the aggregate, are employed  
16 or are participating at a satisfactory level in an approved  
17 training program or educational program.

18 Sec. 2. Section 237A.13, subsection 8, Code 2014, is amended  
19 to read as follows:

20 8. Nothing in this section shall be construed as or is  
21 intended as, or shall imply, a grant of entitlement for  
22 services to persons who are eligible for assistance due to  
23 an income level or other eligibility circumstance addressed  
24 in this section. Any state obligation to provide services  
25 pursuant to this section is limited to the extent of the funds  
26 appropriated for the purposes of state child care assistance.  
27 The department shall not redetermine the eligibility of a  
28 program participant more frequently than every twelve months.

29 Sec. 3. STATE CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS — MOBILE  
30 DEVICES.

31 1. The department of human services shall review the  
32 application form and other elements of the process used  
33 by applicants to apply for the state child care assistance  
34 program. The purpose of the review is to simplify the process  
35 by eliminating requirements to provide unneeded or redundant

1 information and improving the wording of the application, and  
2 identifying other options for improvement. The department  
3 shall report the results of the review to the governor and  
4 general assembly on or before December 1, 2014.

5 2. The department shall implement an application process  
6 enhancement so that applicants for the state child care  
7 assistance program may apply for the program using a mobile  
8 information technology device.

9 Sec. 4. IMPLEMENTATION. The department of human services  
10 shall adopt rules and take other actions as necessary to  
11 implement, as state child care assistance program eligibility  
12 provisions, the amendments to section 237A.13 in this Act, on  
13 July 1, 2014.

14 EXPLANATION

15 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
16 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

17 This bill relates to the state child care assistance program  
18 eligibility and application provisions.

19 State child care assistance program eligibility requirements  
20 in Code section 237A.13 are addressed. The program is  
21 administered by the department of human services. The  
22 department establishes waiting list requirements for the  
23 program based upon the availability of funding and eligibility  
24 requirements for the program generally match the waiting  
25 list requirements. The bill amends two of the waiting list  
26 requirements that are based upon income and employment for at  
27 least 28 hours per week or participation in an educational  
28 program.

29 The bill revises the 28-hour-per-week employment requirement  
30 to apply to a combination of employment and participation at a  
31 satisfactory level in an approved training or education program  
32 for 28 hours per week in the aggregate.

33 The bill provides that the department shall not redetermine  
34 the eligibility of a program participant more frequently than  
35 every 12 months.

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1 The department is required to review the application  
2 form and the process used to apply for the program to make  
3 improvements. The results of the review are to be reported  
4 to the governor and general assembly on or before December 1,  
5 2014. In addition, the department is required to implement an  
6 application process enhancement so that applicants may apply  
7 for the program using a mobile information technology device.

8 The department is required to adopt rules for the bill's  
9 waiting list provisions to be implemented as eligibility  
10 provisions for the state child care assistance program and take  
11 other actions as necessary for the bill to be implemented by  
12 July 1, 2014.