



Sen. Steve Stadelman

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LRB099 18090 KTG 46394 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 2906

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 2906 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Illinois Public Aid Code is amended by
5 changing Section 9A-8 as follows:

6 (305 ILCS 5/9A-8) (from Ch. 23, par. 9A-8)

7 Sec. 9A-8. Operation of Program.

8 (a) At the time of application or redetermination of
9 eligibility under Article IV, as determined by rule, the
10 Illinois Department shall provide information in writing and
11 orally regarding the education, training and employment
12 program to all applicants and recipients. The information
13 required shall be established by rule and shall include, but
14 need not be limited to:

15 (1) education (including literacy training),
16 employment and training opportunities available, the

1 criteria for approval of those opportunities, and the right
2 to request changes in the personal responsibility and
3 services plan to include those opportunities;

4 (1.1) a complete list of all activities that are
5 approvable activities, and the circumstances under which
6 they are approvable, including work activities, substance
7 abuse or mental health treatment, activities to escape and
8 prevent domestic violence, caring for a medically impaired
9 family member, and any other approvable activities,
10 together with the right to and procedures for amending the
11 responsibility and services plan to include these
12 activities;

13 (1.2) the rules concerning the lifetime limit on
14 eligibility, including the current status of the applicant
15 or recipient in terms of the months of remaining
16 eligibility, the criteria under which a month will not
17 count towards the lifetime limit, and the criteria under
18 which a recipient may receive benefits beyond the end of
19 the lifetime limit;

20 (2) supportive services including child care and the
21 rules regarding eligibility for and access to the child
22 care assistance program, transportation, initial expenses
23 of employment, job retention, books and fees, and any other
24 supportive services;

25 (3) the obligation of the Department to provide
26 supportive services;

1 (4) the rights and responsibilities of participants,
2 including exemption, sanction, reconciliation, and good
3 cause criteria and procedures, termination for
4 non-cooperation and reinstatement rules and procedures,
5 and appeal and grievance procedures; and

6 (5) the types and locations of child care services.

7 (b) The Illinois Department shall notify the recipient in
8 writing of the opportunity to volunteer to participate in the
9 program.

10 (c) (Blank).

11 (d) As part of the personal plan for achieving employment
12 and self-sufficiency, the Department shall conduct an
13 individualized assessment of the participant's employability.
14 No participant may be assigned to any component of the
15 education, training and employment activity prior to such
16 assessment. The plan shall include collection of information on
17 the individual's background, proficiencies, skills
18 deficiencies, education level, work history, employment goals,
19 interests, aptitudes, and employment preferences, as well as
20 factors affecting employability or ability to meet
21 participation requirements (e.g., health, physical or mental
22 limitations, child care, family circumstances, domestic
23 violence, sexual violence, substance abuse, and special needs
24 of any child of the individual). As part of the plan,
25 individuals and Department staff shall work together to
26 identify any supportive service needs required to enable the

1 client to participate and meet the objectives of his or her
2 employability plan. The assessment may be conducted through
3 various methods such as interviews, testing, counseling, and
4 self-assessment instruments. In the assessment process, the
5 Department shall offer to include standard literacy testing and
6 a determination of English language proficiency and shall
7 provide it for those who accept the offer. Based on the
8 assessment, the individual will be assigned to the appropriate
9 activity. The decision will be based on a determination of the
10 individual's level of preparation for employment as defined by
11 rule.

12 (e) Recipients determined to be exempt may volunteer to
13 participate pursuant to Section 9A-4 and must be assessed.

14 (f) As part of the personal plan for achieving employment
15 and self-sufficiency under Section 4-1, an employability plan
16 for recipients shall be developed in consultation with the
17 participant. The Department shall have final responsibility
18 for approving the employability plan. The employability plan
19 shall:

20 (1) contain an employment goal of the participant;

21 (2) describe the services to be provided by the
22 Department, including child care and other support
23 services;

24 (3) describe the activities, such as component
25 assignment, that will be undertaken by the participant to
26 achieve the employment goal. The Department shall treat

1 participation in high school and high school equivalency
2 programs as work activities under 42 U.S.C. 607(c)(1)(A)
3 and (B) and count participation in high school and high
4 school equivalency programs toward the first 20 hours per
5 week of participation; and

6 (4) describe any other needs of the family that might
7 be met by the Department.

8 (g) The employability plan shall take into account:

9 (1) available program resources;

10 (2) the participant's support service needs;

11 (3) the participant's skills level and aptitudes;

12 (4) local employment opportunities; and

13 (5) the preferences of the participant.

14 (h) A reassessment shall be conducted to assess a
15 participant's progress and to review the employability plan on
16 the following occasions:

17 (1) upon completion of an activity and before
18 assignment to an activity;

19 (2) upon the request of the participant;

20 (3) if the individual is not cooperating with the
21 requirements of the program; and

22 (4) if the individual has failed to make satisfactory
23 progress in an education or training program.

24 Based on the reassessment, the Department may revise the
25 employability plan of the participant.

26 (Source: P.A. 96-866, eff. 7-1-10.)".