

~~Article 88A - Department of Human Resources~~~~Section 49(d)~~~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~~~(1998 Replacement Volume)~~

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 88A - Department of Human Resources

49.

¶(d) (1) For applicants to the Family Investment Program, the amount of assistance shall be computed by counting no more than 4 weeks of earned income in any month and disregarding 20% of that earned income.

(2) For eligible Family Investment Program recipients who obtain unsubsidized employment, the amount of assistance shall be computed by counting no more than 4 weeks of earned income in any month and disregarding ~~26%~~ 35% of that earned income.‡

~~(D) THE AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE SHALL BE COMPUTED BY COUNTING NO MORE THAN 4 WEEKS OF EARNED INCOME IN ANY MONTH AND DISREGARDING THE FIRST \$170 OF THE TOTAL OF THAT EARNED INCOME PLUS 60% OF THE REMAINDER OF THAT EARNED INCOME.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the increase in the earned income disregard provided by this Act may not increase State General Fund expenditures or expenditures from the reserve for future welfare costs in the Dedicated Purpose Fund.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to federal law and regulation, the Department of Human Resources shall ensure that, if a Family Investment Program recipient's eligibility for cash assistance is extended as a result of this Act, the extended period of cash assistance is not subject to federal and State time limits on the receipt of cash assistance.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Secretary of Human Resources shall monitor federal legislative and regulatory action under the federal Social Security Act and, if on or after July 1, 1999, amendments to the federal Social Security Act or regulations adopted under the federal Social Security Act subject the extended period of cash assistance resulting from this Act to federal time limits, the Secretary of Human Resources shall certify this fact to the Joint Committee on Welfare Reform of the General Assembly. On the date of certification, this Act shall be null and void and of no force and effect. The Secretary of Human Resources shall send a copy of the certification to the Department of Legislative Services.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, if the Secretary of Human Resources determines that federal funding under the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Block Grant has declined to the extent that an increase in State funds is necessary to fund this Act, the Secretary of Human Resources shall certify