

Article 88A - Department of Human Resources

52.

(a) All assistance granted under this subtitle shall be subject to periodic recertification.

(b) During a certification period, the Department may at any time cancel, suspend, or revoke assistance if:

(1) The recipient's circumstances have altered sufficiently to warrant cancellation, suspension, or revocation; or

(2) The recipient has failed to comply with FIP requirements.

(c) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (3) of this subsection, the Governor shall provide sufficient funds under this subtitle to ensure that the value of temporary cash assistance, combined with federal food stamps, is at a minimum equal to 61 percent of the State minimum living level.

(2) Except as provided in paragraph (3) of this subsection, the Governor shall provide sufficient funds to maintain the FIP at the level of the Fiscal Year 1997 appropriation.

(3) The funds under this subsection may be less than the amount described in paragraph (1) or (2) of this subsection if the Governor reports to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on the reasons for the reduced funding for temporary cash assistance and food stamps.

(4) This subsection does not limit the flexibility of local departments of social services regarding the provision of services.

(d) If the Secretary determines during the fiscal year that the funds available for the FIP are insufficient to make payments in accordance with the amount of assistance otherwise established by law, the Secretary shall:

(1) Provide for a uniform method of adjusting individual payments;

(2) Notify the Joint Committee on Welfare Reform; and

(3) Submit emergency regulations, as provided in Title 10, Subtitle 1 of the State Government Article, to implement the adjustment.

~~(e) (1) AS OF JULY 1 OF EACH YEAR, ANY SAVINGS THE DEPARTMENT ANTICIPATES ACHIEVING FROM FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO IT FOR FIP DURING THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR AS A RESULT OF CASELOAD REDUCTIONS OR OTHER REDUCTIONS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE PAID TO RECIPIENTS WHEN COMPARED TO THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE APPROPRIATED SHALL BE AVAILABLE FOR REALLOCATION WITHIN THE BUDGET OF THE DEPARTMENT TO SUPPORT ACTIVITIES THROUGH LOCAL DEPARTMENTS AS FOLLOWS:~~