



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR

GOV. MSG. NO. **818**

July 7, 2006

The Honorable Robert Bunda, President  
and Members of the Senate  
Twenty-Third State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 003  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. President and Members of the Senate:

This is to inform you that on July 7, 2006, the following bill was signed into law:

SB475 SD2 HD1 CD1

A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO  
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.  
(ACT 287)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Lingle".

LINDA LINGLE

THE SENATE  
TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2005  
STATE OF HAWAII

S.B. NO. 475  
S.D. 2  
H.D. 1  
C.D. 1

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that, as the cost of  
2 living increases each year, the standard of need in Hawaii,  
3 which is based on the federal poverty level for the State, is  
4 not adjusted to reflect this increase and is still based on the  
5 federal poverty level in 1993.

6 The purpose of this Act is to adjust the State's standard  
7 of need by updating it to reflect the 2006 federal poverty level  
8 for Hawaii.

9 SECTION 2. Section 346-53, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
10 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

11 "(a) This subsection does not apply to general assistance  
12 to households without minor dependents. The standard of need  
13 [~~for families of given sizes~~] shall equal the poverty level  
14 established by the federal government in [~~1993,~~] 2006, prorated  
15 over a twelve-month period[~~-~~] based on family size.

16 The assistance allowance provided shall be based on a  
17 percentage of the standard of need. For exempt households and  
18 households in which all caretaker relatives are minors, living



1 independently with minor dependents and attending school, the  
2 assistance allowance shall be set [~~at~~] no higher than sixty-two  
3 and one-half per cent and no lower than forty-four per cent of  
4 the standard of need. For all other households, the assistance  
5 allowance shall be set no higher than sixty-two and one-half per  
6 cent of the standard of need and set no lower than [~~fifty~~]  
7 thirty-four per cent of the standard of need. The standard of  
8 need shall be determined by dividing the [~~1993~~] 2006 federal  
9 poverty level by twelve and rounding down the quotient. The  
10 remaining quotient shall be multiplied by the per cent as set by  
11 the director by rules pursuant to chapter 91, and the final  
12 product shall be rounded down to determine the assistance  
13 allowance; provided that:

- 14 (1) The department may increase or reduce the assistance  
15 allowance as determined in this subsection for non-  
16 exempt households for the purpose of providing work  
17 incentives or services under part XI [~~of this~~  
18 ~~chapter~~];
- 19 (2) No reduction shall be allowed that jeopardizes  
20 eligibility for or receipt of federal funds;
- 21 (3) Reductions in the assistance allowance shall be  
22 limited to no more than one per year; and



1 (4) No non-exempt household, which includes an adult who  
2 has received sixty cumulative months of temporary  
3 assistance to needy families with minor dependents,  
4 shall be eligible for an assistance allowance, unless  
5 authorized by federal regulations."

6 SECTION 3. The department of human services shall  
7 reevaluate the standard of need during the interim period  
8 following the 2006 regular session and report its findings and  
9 recommendations, along with any proposed legislation, to the  
10 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the start of the  
11 2007 regular session.

12 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
13 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

14 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007;  
15 provided that section 3 shall take effect upon its approval.



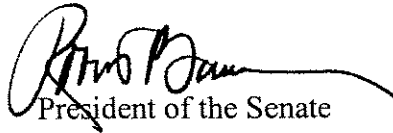
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Approved this day: JUL - 7 2006

**THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII**

Date: May 2, 2006  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006.



President of the Senate



Clerk of the Senate


**THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII**

Date: May 2, 2006  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006.



Speaker, House of Representatives



Clerk, House of Representatives