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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that public assistance  
2 programs currently limit eligibility to those with few or no  
3 assets. The function of asset limits is to ensure public  
4 resources reach individuals and families most in need. However,  
5 there is growing recognition that asset limits can discourage  
6 savings and prevent families from making investments that can  
7 help them escape poverty. Assets, such as personal savings, are  
8 precisely the kind of resources that allow families to move off  
9 and stay off of public assistance programs.

10           The purpose of this Act is to require the department of  
11 human services to conduct a study to evaluate current asset  
12 limits for public assistance programs, including the temporary  
13 assistance for needy families program, and assess the effects of  
14 changing the asset limits on those programs.

15           SECTION 2. The department of human services shall conduct  
16 a study on asset limits for public assistance programs, which  
17 shall include:

18           (1) An evaluation of current asset limits;



- 1           (2) Information on promising activities, policies, and
- 2           trends; and
- 3           (3) The potential effects of changing the asset limits on
- 4           the supplemental nutritional assistance program,
- 5           temporary assistance for needy families program,
- 6           temporary assistance for other needy families program,
- 7           and Med-QUEST program.

8           The department shall report its findings and  
9           recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the  
10          legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
11          the regular session of 2013.

12          SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2030.



**Report Title:**

Department of Human Services; Public Assistance Programs; Asset Limit; Study

**Description:**

Requires DHS to conduct a study on asset limits for public assistance programs. Requires a report to the legislature. Effective July 1, 2030. (SD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

