
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES.

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

1 SECTION 1. Public assistance programs limit eligibility to
2 those who have few or no assets. Unfortunately, such asset
3 limits provide an incentive for individuals to divest themselves
4 of assets and a disincentive to accumulate assets. This is
5 problematic, as families need assets to avoid and escape poverty
6 and become self-sufficient.

7 The Corporation for Enterprise Development is a national
8 nonprofit based in Washington, D.C., dedicated to expanding
9 economic opportunity for low-income families and communities.
10 The Corporation for Enterprise Development recommends that
11 states, among other things, completely eliminate asset limits
12 for their temporary assistance for needy families programs or
13 raise the asset limit for those programs to \$15,000. As of
14 today, one state has raised its asset limit to \$15,000, and five
15 states have completely eliminated their asset limits.

16 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
17 human services to conduct a study to evaluate current asset
18 limits for public assistance programs, including the temporary



1 assistance for needy families program, and assess the effects of
2 changing the asset limits on those programs.

3 SECTION 2. The department of human services shall conduct
4 a study on asset limits for public assistance programs, which
5 shall include:

- 6 (1) An evaluation of current asset limits;
- 7 (2) Information on promising activities, policies, and
8 trends; and
- 9 (3) The potential effects of changing the asset limits on
10 the supplemental nutritional assistance program,
11 temporary assistance for needy families program,
12 temporary assistance for other needy families program,
13 and Med-QUEST program.

14 The department shall report its findings and
15 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
16 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
17 the regular session of 2013.

18 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

DHS; TANF Program; TAONF Program; Med-QUEST; OHA Package

Description:

Requires DHS to conduct a study on asset limits for public assistance programs. Requires a report to the legislature. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

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

