

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill modifies the MFIP program by (1) reducing the maximum time limit from 60-months to 36-months, (2) reducing the MFIP exit level from 115 percent to 100 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, (3) disqualifying persons convicted of a drug offense within the past ten years, and (4) modifies sanctions to reduce the number of sanctions for noncompliance a participant receives before the MFIP case is closed.

- 1 EBT use restricted to certain states.** Amends § 256.987, by adding a subdivision. Limits use of the cash portion of EBT cards to Minnesota and the surrounding states.
- 2 Family violence waiver.** Amends § 256J.08, subd. 34b. Makes conforming changes. Makes this section effective July 1, 2012.
- 3 Learning disabled.** Amends § 256J.08, subd. 51b. Makes conforming changes. Makes this section effective July 1, 2012.
- 4 MFIP exit level.** Amends § 256J.24, subd. 10. Reduces the MFIP exit level from 115 percent to 100 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.
- 5 Person convicted of drug offenses.** Amends § 256J.26, subd. 1. Disqualifies persons convicted of a drug offense within the past ten years from receiving MFIP. Under current law, persons convicted of a drug offense committed after July 1, 1997, may receive MFIP benefits subject to certain conditions including vendor payment of shelter and utility costs and submitting to random drug testing. Makes this section effective July 1, 2012, for all new MFIP applicants who apply on or after that date and for all recertifications occurring on or after that date.
- 6 Notice of 12 months of TANF assistance remaining.** Amends § 256J.415. Makes conforming changes. Makes this section effective July 1, 2012.
- 7 Time limit.** Amends § 256J.42, subd. 1. Reduces the MFIP time limit from 60 months to 36 months for all MFIP applicants who have not received TANF assistance in the past. Makes this section effective July 1, 2012.

- 8** **Victims of family violence.** Amends § 256J.42, subd. 4. Makes conforming changes. Makes this section effective July 1, 2012.
- 9** **Exemption for certain families.** Amends § 256J.42, subd. 5. Makes conforming changes. Makes this section effective July 1, 2012.
- 10** **Case review.** Amends § 256J.42, subd. 6. Makes conforming changes. Makes this section effective July 1, 2012.
- 11** **Eligibility.** Amends § 256J.425, subd. 1. Makes conforming changes. Makes this section effective July 1, 2012.
- 12** **Employed participants.** Amends § 256J.425, subd. 4. Makes conforming changes. Makes this section effective July 1, 2012.
- 13** **Hardship extension pending documentation.** Amends § 256J.425, subd. 4a. Makes conforming changes. Makes this section effective July 1, 2012.
- 14** **Accrual of certain exempt months.** Amends § 256J.425, subd. 5. Makes conforming changes. Makes this section effective July 1, 2012.
- 15** **Sanctions for extended cases.** Amends § 256J.425, subd. 6. Makes conforming changes. Makes this section effective July 1, 2012.
- 16** **General information.** Amends § 256J.45, subd. 2. Makes conforming changes. Makes this section effective July 1, 2012.
- 17** **Participants not complying with program requirements.** Amends § 256J.46, subd. 1. Modifies sanctions for participants not complying with program requirements by reducing the number of sanctions participants may receive from seven to three before their MFIP case is closed. Specifies that only sanctions occurring after July 1, 2012, shall be considered.
- 18** **Explanatory materials required.** Amends § 256J.50, subd. 6. Makes conforming changes. Makes this section effective July 1, 2012.
- 19** **Required notification to victims of family violence.** Amends § 256J.50, subd. 10. Makes conforming changes. Makes this section effective July 1, 2012.
- 20** **Eligibility.** Amends § 256J.575, subd. 3. Makes conforming changes. Makes this section effective July 1, 2012.
- 21** **Work participation cash benefits.** Amends § 256J.621. Makes conforming changes. Makes this section effective July 1, 2012.
- 22** **Allowable expenditures.** Amends § 256J.626, subd. 2. Makes conforming changes. Makes this section effective July 1, 2012.
- 23** **Monthly county caseload report.** Amends § 256J.751, subd. 1. Makes conforming changes. Makes this section effective July 1, 2012.