

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Without Recommendation as to Passage and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference
Vote:	8 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Frederick, Greenlick, Harker, Parrish, Thompson, Weidner, Gilliam, Tomei
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Jennifer Kellar, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/13, 4/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Department of Human Services (DHS) to reimburse employer for employee expenses for up to three months if employer hires an individual placed with the employer through the JOBS Plus Program. Authorizes DHS to recover reimbursement paid if the employer fails to retain the employee for six months. Authorizes DHS to restrict access by needy caretaker relatives receiving temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) to services provided in job opportunity and basic skills program. Allows DHS to reduce aid for three consecutive months if participant in the job opportunity and basic skills program refuses to comply with program requirements. Requires DHS to terminate aid if participant refuses to comply with program requirements for three months. Expands requirement of assigning rights of support to state to apply to two-parent family receiving aid that is state-funded or not funded by federal TANF grant. Reduces time limit for receipt of aid from 60 months to 48 months. Requires DHS to deny aid to a dependent child if the needy caretaker relative living with the child has received aid for 48 months. Limits the type of exceptions that exclude receipt of assistance from counting toward the 48 month limit. Allows family to receive more than 48 months of aid for months in which specified conditions exist. Extends from July 1, 2011 to July 1, 2013, certain temporary provisions allowing department to suspend statutory requirements for aid.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Review of measure
- DHS support of measure
- Review of TANF program
- Funding for TANF program
- Potential amendment

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: In 2007, the Legislative Assembly enacted House Bill 2469 which redesigned the TANF program. According to DHS records, since implementing the TANF redesign in 2007, Oregon has experienced an unprecedented economic downturn and need for client services. TANF caseloads are 60 percent higher than in 2007 (18,189 clients in September 2007 and 29,227 clients in October 2010). TANF program staffing has remained flat with the increased demand for services. Currently, the program is staffed at 40 percent of need.

House Bill 2049 authorizes reinvesting of funds to allow programs to continue as intended under the TANF redesign or determine what services the current TANF program will eliminate or reduce to remain operable within a reduced budget.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.