

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference
Vote:	9 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Gallegos, Gelser, Gilliam, Gomberg, Keny-Guyer, Olson, Whisnant, Whitsett, Tomei
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Regina Wilson, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs Department of Human Services to establish recommendations for general assistance program to serve low-income, childless adults with disabilities.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Length of time to receive SSI/SSDI benefits
- Gap in social services
- Tiered process to receive SSI benefits
- Percentage of claims approved

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Historically, General Assistance (GA) programs provided financial relief to individuals who may qualify for Social Security Insurance/Social Security Disability Insurance (SSI/SSDI). GA funding was eliminated January 31, 2003, then, excluding individuals that might qualify for SSDI, re-opened in November 2003. Ultimately, in 2005, the program was closed. Restoration attempts for GA funds occurred in 2007 and 2009. House Bill 2712 would establish an advisory committee to assist in the development of recommendations for a GA funding program.