

House Bill 500

By: Representatives Smith of the 18<sup>th</sup>, Cooper of the 45<sup>th</sup>, Camp of the 135<sup>th</sup>, Hilton of the 48<sup>th</sup>, and Schofield of the 63<sup>rd</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 9 of Chapter 4 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to the "Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Act," so as to increase access to  
3 and amount of benefits; to revise a definition; to increase the lifetime maximum for benefits;  
4 to revise the income and resources of an applicant that may be considered to determine  
5 eligibility; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 9 of Chapter 4 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the  
9 "Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Act," is amended in Code Section 49-4-181,  
10 relating to definitions, by revising paragraph (4) as follows:

11 "(4) 'Cash assistance' means the money payment component of TANF assistance, which  
12 shall be based on a standard of need that is equal to 40 percent of the federal poverty level  
13 for the applicable family size and which equates to a maximum monthly amount equal  
14 to 75 percent of such amount for each such family size."

15 **SECTION 2.**

16 Said article is further amended in Code Section 49-4-182, relating to the Temporary  
17 Assistance for Needy Families Program created, by revising subsection (b) as follows:

18 "(b) Assistance shall be provided in accordance with the state plan and any future  
19 amendments thereto. Cash assistance to a recipient who is not a minor child and who is a  
20 head of a household or married to the head of a household shall be limited to a lifetime  
21 maximum of ~~48~~ 60 months, whether or not consecutive, beginning ~~January 1, 1997~~  
22 July 1, 2025."

23 **SECTION 3.**

24 Said article is further amended in Code Section 49-4-183, relating to administration of article  
25 by department, promulgation of rules and regulations by board, and duties of department, by  
26 revising paragraph (3) of subsection (b) as follows:

27 "(3) Consideration of the income and resources of an applicant for assistance in  
28 determining eligibility; provided, however, that the resources of an applicant for assistance  
29 shall not exceed \$5,000.00, provided that the equity value of one vehicle per family shall  
30 not be counted as a resource of the family if the vehicle is used for work, training, or  
31 education preparatory to employment or job search; provided, further, that a \$4,650.00  
32 exclusion of the equity value of one additional vehicle is allowed;"

33 **SECTION 4.**

34 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.