

The House Committee on Public and Community Health offers the following substitute to HB 500:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

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

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

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

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

SECTION 2.

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

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

SECTION 3.

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

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

SECTION 4.

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