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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

H.B. 44
133rd General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. G. Holmes and A. Miller

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SUMMARY

- Requires the Directors of Job and Family Services and Health to certify the amount necessary to fund the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) programs, and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program from Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) if there is a lapse in federal funding.
- Appropriates from the Budget Stabilization Fund the amounts so certified, up to the balance of the fund.
- Requires the Directors to certify the amount received in federal reimbursement for the programs after the lapse in federal funding ends.
- Requires the Director of Budget and Management to transfer that amount from the appropriate fund to the Budget Stabilization Fund.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Continued funding for programs on lapse of federal funding

The bill requires the Director of Job and Family Services to certify to the Director of Budget and Management the amount necessary to continue to fund the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) programs if there is a lapse in federal funding. Similarly, the Director of Health is required to certify the amount necessary to continue to fund the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) if federal funding lapses. The amount to be certified must be equivalent to the amount that otherwise would have been received for the respective programs.¹

¹ Section 1(B).

The bill appropriates from the Budget Stabilization Fund the amounts so certified, up to the balance of the fund. Authorization of the funding expires when the federal government resumes funding operations.²

The Director of Budget and Management is required by the bill to establish accounts indicating the source and amount of funds for the bill's appropriations. The Director also must determine the form and manner in which appropriation accounts are to be maintained. Expenditures from the appropriations must be accounted for as though made in the main operating appropriations act of the 133rd General Assembly (H.B. 166). The bill's appropriations are subject to all provisions of H.B. 166 that generally apply to such appropriations.³

The bill requires the Director of Job and Family Services and Director of Health to certify to the Director of Budget and Management the amount received in federal reimbursement for the SNAP, TANF, and WIC programs after the lapse in federal funding ends. The Director of Budget and Management must transfer that amount from the appropriate fund to the Budget Stabilization Fund.⁴

SNAP, TANF, and WIC background

The purpose of SNAP is to help low-income households obtain a more nutritious diet through normal channels of trade by increasing the food purchasing power of eligible households that apply to participate.⁵ SNAP is also known as the Food Stamp program. The federal government pays 100% of the costs of the program's benefits and, generally, half of the state's administrative costs.

TANF programs are authorized by Title IV-A of the Social Security Act. States may receive federal funds under the TANF block grant to operate programs designed to meet one or more of the following purposes: (1) provide assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives, (2) end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage, (3) prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies and establish annual numerical goals for preventing and reducing the incidence of these pregnancies, and (4) encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.⁶ States are responsible for a portion of the costs of TANF programs. The state's portion is known as its maintenance of effort requirement. Ohio has several TANF programs, including Ohio Works First; Prevention, Retention, and Contingency; the Kinship Permanency Incentive Program; and the Ohio Parenting and Pregnancy Program.⁷

² Section 1(C).

³ Section 1(C).

⁴ Section 1(D).

⁵ 7 United States Code (U.S.C.) 2011.

⁶ 42 U.S.C. 601(a).

⁷ R.C. 5101.80, not in the bill.

The WIC program’s purpose is to prevent health problems and improve the health status of low-income infants, children, and pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women by providing them supplemental foods and education about nutrition and breastfeeding.⁸ The state receives a federal grant for the program.

Effective date

The bill declares that it is exempt from the referendum under the Ohio Constitution and state law and takes effect immediately when the bill becomes law.⁹ The Ohio Constitution provides that laws providing for appropriations for the current expenses of the state government and state institutions go into immediate effect.¹⁰

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	02-12-19

H0044-I-133/ks

⁸ 42 U.S.C. 1786(a).

⁹ Section 2.

¹⁰ Ohio Constitution, Article II, Section 1d.