

By: Villarreal

H.B. No. 2059

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to providing supplemental financial assistance to certain  
3 primary caretakers of a child receiving financial assistance.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 31.0041, Human Resources Code, is  
6 amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (f) and  
7 (g) to read as follows:

8 (a) To the extent funds are appropriated for this purpose,  
9 the department may provide supplemental financial assistance in  
10 addition to the amount of financial assistance granted for the  
11 support of a dependent child under Section 31.003 to a person who:

12 (1) is 45 years of age or older;

13 (2) is a relative [~~the grandparent~~] of the dependent  
14 child, as defined by Section 31.002, who lives at the person's  
15 residence;

16 (3) is the primary caretaker of the dependent child;

17 (4) has a family income that is at or below 200 percent  
18 of the federal poverty level; and

19 (5) does not have resources that exceed the amount  
20 allowed for financial assistance under this chapter, except as  
21 provided by Subsection (f).

22 (f) In determining whether a person is eligible for  
23 supplemental financial assistance under this section, the  
24 department shall exclude from the person's available resources the

1 fair market value of the person's ownership interest in a motor  
2 vehicle, but not more than \$15,000 plus or minus an amount to be  
3 determined annually beginning on September 1, 2003, to reflect  
4 changes in the new car component of the Consumer Price Index for All  
5 Urban Consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

6 (g) In this section, "relative" means a grandparent,  
7 great-grandparent, aunt, or uncle of a dependent child.

8 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003, and  
9 applies to a person receiving financial assistance under Chapter  
10 31, Human Resources Code, on or after that date, regardless of the  
11 date on which eligibility for that assistance was determined.