

1-1 By: Perry S.B. No. 723
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 24, 2015; March 2, 2015,
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Human
 1-4 Services; April 20, 2015, reported adversely, with favorable
 1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 2;
 1-6 April 20, 2015, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14		X		
1-15	X			
1-16		X		
1-17			X	

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 723 By: Perry

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to mandatory participation in certain TANF employment and
 1-22 other programs by certain persons.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Sections 31.0031(a) and (d), Human Resources
 1-25 Code, as amended by S.B. No. 219, Acts of the 84th Legislature,
 1-26 Regular Session, 2015, are amended to read as follows:

1-27 (a) The commission shall require each adult recipient and
 1-28 nonrecipient parent to sign a bill of responsibilities that defines
 1-29 the responsibilities of the state and of the recipient or
 1-30 nonrecipient parent, as applicable, and encourages personal
 1-31 responsibility. The commission shall explain to the applicant the
 1-32 work requirements and time-limited benefits in addition to the
 1-33 other provisions of the agreement before the applicant signs the
 1-34 agreement. The commission shall provide each applicant with a copy
 1-35 of the signed agreement. The agreement shall include pertinent
 1-36 case information, including the case number and a listing of the
 1-37 state's benefits.

1-38 (d) The responsibility agreement shall require that:

1-39 (1) the parent of a dependent child cooperate with the
 1-40 commission and the Title IV-D agency if necessary to establish the
 1-41 paternity of the dependent child and to establish or enforce child
 1-42 support;

1-43 (2) if adequate and accessible providers of the
 1-44 services are available in the geographic area and subject to the
 1-45 availability of funds, each dependent child, as appropriate,
 1-46 complete early and periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment
 1-47 checkups on schedule and receive the immunization series prescribed
 1-48 by Section 161.004, Health and Safety Code, unless the child is
 1-49 exempt under that section;

1-50 (3) each adult recipient, or teen parent recipient who
 1-51 has completed the requirements regarding school attendance in
 1-52 Subdivision (6), not voluntarily terminate paid employment of at
 1-53 least 30 hours each week without good cause in accordance with rules
 1-54 adopted by the executive commissioner;

1-55 (4) each adult recipient for whom a needs assessment
 1-56 is conducted participate in an activity to enable that person to
 1-57 become self-sufficient by:

1-58 (A) continuing the person's education or
 1-59 becoming literate;

1-60 (B) entering a job placement or employment skills

2-1 training program;

2-2 (C) serving as a volunteer in the person's

2-3 community; or

2-4 (D) serving in a community work program or other

2-5 work program approved by the commission;

2-6 (5) each caretaker relative or parent receiving

2-7 assistance not use, sell, or possess marihuana or a controlled

2-8 substance in violation of Chapter 481, Health and Safety Code, or

2-9 abuse alcohol;

2-10 (6) each dependent child younger than 18 years of age

2-11 or teen parent younger than 19 years of age attend school regularly,

2-12 unless the child has a high school diploma or high school

2-13 equivalency certificate or is specifically exempted from school

2-14 attendance under Section 25.086, Education Code;

2-15 (7) each recipient comply with commission rules

2-16 regarding proof of school attendance; ~~and~~

2-17 (8) each recipient or nonrecipient parent, as

2-18 applicable, attend appropriate parenting skills training classes,

2-19 as determined by a ~~the~~ needs assessment; and

2-20 (9) each nonrecipient parent, other than a

2-21 nonrecipient parent exempt from the requirements, including a

2-22 nonrecipient parent subject to Section 31.012(c) or (g), satisfy

2-23 mandatory employment or employment training requirements under

2-24 Section 31.012.

2-25 SECTION 2. Section 31.012, Human Resources Code, is amended

2-26 by amending Subsection (a), as amended by S.B. No. 219, Acts of the

2-27 84th Legislature, Regular Session, 2015, and adding Subsection (g)

2-28 to read as follows:

2-29 (a) The Health and Human Services Commission shall require

2-30 that, during any one-month period in which an adult is receiving or

2-31 the child of a nonrecipient parent is receiving financial

2-32 assistance under this chapter, the adult or nonrecipient parent, as

2-33 applicable, shall during that period:

2-34 (1) work not less than 30 hours a week; or

2-35 (2) participate for not less than 20 hours a week in an

2-36 activity established under a Temporary Assistance for Needy

2-37 Families employment program established under Part A, Subchapter

2-38 IV, Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Section 601 et seq.).

2-39 (g) A nonrecipient parent who receives Supplemental

2-40 Security Income (SSI) benefits under 42 U.S.C. Section 1381 et seq.

2-41 is not subject to the requirements of this section. The Texas

2-42 Workforce Commission may provide services to the nonrecipient

2-43 parent under this chapter in accordance with rules adopted by the

2-44 executive commissioner.

2-45 SECTION 3. Section 31.0126(c), Human Resources Code, as

2-46 amended by S.B. No. 219, Acts of the 84th Legislature, Regular

2-47 Session, 2015, is amended to read as follows:

2-48 (c) In adopting rules governing a program prescribed by this

2-49 section, the executive commissioner shall:

2-50 (1) establish ~~the~~ criteria consistent with this

2-51 chapter for determining which recipients and nonrecipient parents

2-52 who are eligible to participate in the Temporary Assistance for

2-53 Needy Families employment programs established under Part A,

2-54 Subchapter IV, Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Section 601 et seq.),

2-55 may be required to participate in a particular program; and

2-56 (2) ensure that a recipient or a nonrecipient parent

2-57 who is incapable of participating in a particular program is not

2-58 required to participate in that program.

2-59 SECTION 4. Sections 31.0135(a) and (b), Human Resources

2-60 Code, as amended by S.B. No. 219, Acts of the 84th Legislature,

2-61 Regular Session, 2015, are amended to read as follows:

2-62 (a) The commission, in cooperation with the Texas Education

2-63 Agency, the Department of Family and Protective Services, the Texas

2-64 A&M AgriLife Extension Service, or any other public or private

2-65 entity, shall develop a parenting skills training program to assist

2-66 a recipient of assistance under this chapter, including a child who

2-67 receives assistance on behalf of a dependent child, and a

2-68 nonrecipient parent. The program shall include nutrition

2-69 education, budgeting and survival skills, and instruction on the

3-1 necessity of physical and emotional safety for children.

3-2 (b) The commission shall require that a caretaker relative
3-3 or parent who is receiving assistance under this chapter on behalf
3-4 of a dependent child, including a nonrecipient parent, receive
3-5 appropriate parenting skills training as needed. The training must
3-6 include one or more components of the parenting skills training
3-7 program that the commission determines will be useful to the
3-8 caretaker relative or parent.

3-9 SECTION 5. The changes in law made by this Act apply to a
3-10 person receiving financial assistance, including a nonrecipient
3-11 parent, as defined by Section 31.0021, Human Resources Code, on or
3-12 after the effective date of this Act, regardless of the date the
3-13 determination of eligibility for that assistance was made.

3-14 SECTION 6. If before implementing any provision of this Act
3-15 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a
3-16 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,
3-17 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or
3-18 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the
3-19 waiver or authorization is granted.

3-20 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

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