
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Section 346-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended as follows:

3 1. By adding three new definitions to be appropriately
4 inserted and to read:

5 "Non-work eligible household" means a household in which
6 all the adult members are receiving assistance under the
7 temporary assistance for needy families program, or are non-
8 recipient parents, who are:

9 (1) Parents of a household member who also provide care
10 for a disabled family member living in the home,
11 provided that the need for such care is supported by
12 medical documentation. Only one parent in a household
13 may claim this status;

14 (2) Single custodial parents personally providing care for
15 the parents' child under twelve months of age for a
16 lifetime limit of twelve months;

17 (3) Non-needy caretakers; or

1 (4) Recipients of supplemental security income or social
2 security disability insurance as defined in title 42
3 U.S.C. sections 1381-1383.

4 "Other work eligible household" means a household in which
5 there is no work eligible individual and at least one adult
6 member is an adult receiving assistance under the temporary
7 assistance for needy families program, or a non-recipient
8 parent, who is:

9 (1) Unable to engage in full-time employment as defined by
10 the work participation requirements of the Social
11 Security Act, title 42 U.S.C. section 607, at a job
12 for which the non-recipient parent is equipped by
13 education, training, or experience, for a period of
14 more than thirty days from the onset of an illness,
15 incapacity, or disability due to a physical or mental
16 impairment or substance abuse, as determined by a
17 licensed physician or psychologist;

18 (2) A domestic violence victim or any other adult in the
19 assistance unit who meets the criteria established by
20 the department of human services; or

21 (3) An adult sixty-five years of age or older.

1 "Work eligible household" means a household in which at
2 least one member is an adult receiving assistance under the
3 temporary assistance for needy families program, or a non-
4 recipient parent who is not a non-work eligible individual or an
5 other work eligible individual."

6 2. By repealing the definition of "exempt household".

7 ~~["Exempt household" means a household in which all adult~~
8 ~~members or the minor parent who is head of a household, are~~
9 ~~exempt for one or more of the following reasons:~~

10 ~~(1) Ill, incapacitated, or disabled, as determined by the~~
11 ~~department on the basis of medical or other competent~~
12 ~~evidence;~~

13 ~~(2) Sixty years of age or older;~~

14 ~~(3) Needed in the household, as determined by the~~
15 ~~department, to care for another household member who~~
16 ~~is ill, incapacitated, or disabled;~~

17 ~~(4) In a one adult household, the parent or other relative~~
18 ~~of a child who is not of school age and is personally~~
19 ~~providing care for the child, unless child care is~~
20 ~~provided by the department under this part;~~

21 ~~(5) Non-needy; or~~

1 ~~(6) A single parent responsible for the care and custody~~
2 ~~of a child under the age of six months."]~~

3 SECTION 2. Section 346-53, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

5 "(a) This subsection does not apply to general assistance
6 to households without minor dependents. The standard of need
7 shall equal the poverty level established by the federal
8 government in 2006, prorated over a twelve-month period based on
9 family size.

10 The assistance allowance provided shall be based on a
11 percentage of the standard of need. For [~~exempt households~~]
12 other work eligible households and non-work eligible households
13 and households in which all caretaker relatives are minors,
14 living independently with minor dependents and attending school,
15 the assistance allowance shall be set no higher than sixty-two
16 and one-half per cent and no lower than forty-four per cent of
17 the standard of need. For all other households, the assistance
18 allowance shall be set no higher than sixty-two and one-half per
19 cent of the standard of need and set no lower than thirty-four
20 per cent of the standard of need. The standard of need shall be
21 determined by dividing the 2006 federal poverty level by twelve
22 and rounding down the quotient. The remaining quotient shall be

1 multiplied by the per cent as set by the director by rules
2 pursuant to chapter 91, and the final product shall be rounded
3 down to determine the assistance allowance; provided that:

4 (1) The department may increase or reduce the assistance
5 allowance as determined in this subsection for [~~non-~~
6 ~~exempt households~~] work eligible households for the
7 purpose of providing work incentives or services under
8 part XI;

9 (2) No reduction shall be allowed that jeopardizes
10 eligibility for or receipt of federal funds;

11 (3) Reductions in the assistance allowance shall be
12 limited to no more than one per year; and

13 (4) No [~~non-exempt household,~~] work eligible household,
14 which includes an adult who has received sixty
15 cumulative months of temporary assistance to needy
16 families with minor dependents, shall be eligible for
17 an assistance allowance, unless authorized by federal
18 regulations."

19 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
20 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

21 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2009.

Report Title:

Public Assistance

Description:

Amends public assistance law by adding definitions of "non-work eligible household", "work eligible household", and "other work eligible household" and repealing the definition of "exempt household" to be consistent with recent changes in federal regulations. Also amends section 346-53(a), Hawaii Revised Statutes (determination of assistance), to be consistent with the new definitions. (SD2)