

AMENDMENTS TO LB 825

(Amendments to Standing Committee amendments, AM2163)

Introduced by Cook

1 1. Insert the following sections:

2 Sec. 7. The purposes of sections 7 to 12 of this act are  
3 to:

4 (1) Simplify the management and delivery of public  
5 benefits by the Department of Health and Human Services;

6 (2) Make the delivery system for public benefits more  
7 efficient and effective; and

8 (3) Coordinate and simplify public benefit programs and  
9 systems.

10 Sec. 8. For purposes of sections 7 to 12 of this act:

11 (1) Aid to dependent children program means the program  
12 described in section 43-512;

13 (2) Child Care and Development Block Grant means the  
14 program established under 42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.;

15 (3) Child care subsidy program means the program  
16 established under section 68-1202;

17 (4) Children's Health Insurance Program means the program  
18 established under 42 U.S.C. 1397aa;

19 (5) Department means the Department of Health and Human  
20 Services;

21 (6) Medical assistance program means the program  
22 established pursuant to the Medical Assistance Act;

1           (7) Renewal means establishment of continued eligibility  
2 for a program for an additional period of time;

3           (8) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program means the  
4 federal program administered under sections 68-1017 to 68-1017.02;  
5 and

6           (9) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program means  
7 the program established under 42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.

8           Sec. 9. The policies and requirements in sections 7  
9 to 12 of this act shall be implemented in accord with the  
10 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, the Child Care  
11 and Development Block Grant, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance  
12 Program, the medical assistance program, and the Children's Health  
13 Insurance Program and any other state or federal programs in which  
14 the State of Nebraska participates. The department shall seek any  
15 and all state plan amendments or waivers necessary to implement  
16 sections 1 to 6 of this act.

17           Sec. 10. The department shall simplify documentation  
18 requirements for public benefit programs. The policies to be  
19 implemented by the department to effectuate this intent shall  
20 include, but not be limited to, selection and utilization of  
21 the least burdensome and least redundant verification procedures  
22 for recipients that are allowed under federal law for the  
23 medical assistance program, the aid to dependent children program,  
24 the child care subsidy program, and the Supplemental Nutrition  
25 Assistance Program.

26           Sec. 11. The department shall share verification  
27 of client information across the public benefit programs it

1 administers, including the medical assistance program, the aid to  
2 dependent children program, the child care subsidy program, and  
3 the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, in order to permit  
4 client information verified in one program to update eligibility  
5 information in another program.

6           Sec. 12. The department shall coordinate and simplify  
7 public benefit renewals in the medical assistance program, the  
8 aid to dependent children program, the child care subsidy program,  
9 and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. The policies to  
10 be implemented by the department to effectuate this intent shall  
11 include:

12           (1) Renewal of all such programs simultaneously to the  
13 greatest extent possible;

14           (2) Allow closed cases to be reopened and eligibility to  
15 be established for individuals whose application for assistance was  
16 denied within the previous thirty days or whose case was closed  
17 within the previous thirty days, as allowed under the medical  
18 assistance program, the Children's Health Insurance Program, and  
19 the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.