

E AND R AMENDMENTS TO LB 507

Introduced by Larson, 40, Chairman Enrollment and Review

1 1. Strike the original sections and all amendments
2 thereto and insert the following new sections:

3 Section 1. Section 68-1708, Reissue Revised Statutes of
4 Nebraska, is amended to read:

5 68-1708 Sections 68-1708 to 68-1734 and sections 2 to 5
6 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Welfare Reform
7 Act.

8 Sec. 2. For purposes of creating the self-sufficiency
9 contract and meeting the applicant's work activity requirement, an
10 applicant who is under twenty years of age and is married or a
11 single head of household is deemed to have met the work activity
12 requirement in a month if he or she:

13 (1) Maintains satisfactory attendance during such month
14 at secondary school, a general education development program, or
15 the equivalent; or

16 (2) Participates in education directly related to
17 employment for an average of at least twenty hours per week during
18 such month. Education directly related to employment includes, but
19 is not limited to, Adult Basic Education, English as a Second
20 Language, and a general education development program.

21 Sec. 3. (1) For purposes of this section, target work
22 rate means fifty percent less the caseload reduction credit
23 submitted by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

1 to the United States Department of Health and Human Services for
2 the fiscal year.

3 (2) For purposes of creating the self-sufficiency
4 contract and meeting the applicant's work activity requirement,
5 an applicant under twenty-four years of age shall be deemed to
6 have met the work activity requirement in a month if he or she is
7 engaged in education directly related to employment for an average
8 of at least twenty hours per week during such month. Education
9 directly related to employment includes, but is not limited to,
10 Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language, and a general
11 education development program.

12 (3) No state funds shall be used to carry out this
13 section unless such state funds meet the definition of qualified
14 state expenditures under the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy
15 Families Act, 42 U.S.C. 609(a) (7) (B) (i).

16 (4) If Nebraska's work participation rate under the
17 federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, 42 U.S.C.
18 601 et seq., does not exceed the target work rate by ten percentage
19 points in any month, the Department of Health and Human Services
20 may suspend the requirements of subsection (2) of this section
21 until the work participation rate exceeds the target work rate by
22 ten percentage points for three consecutive months.

23 Sec. 4. The Department of Health and Human Services shall
24 report annually to the Legislature on October 1 on the following:

25 (1) The number of persons on a quarterly basis
26 participating in a self-sufficiency contract who are engaged in one
27 of the following activities:

- 1 (a) An associate degree program;
- 2 (b) A vocational education program not leading to an
- 3 associate degree;
- 4 (c) Postsecondary education other than a program
- 5 described in subdivision (1) (a) or (b) of this section;
- 6 (d) Adult Basic Education;
- 7 (e) English as a Second Language; or
- 8 (f) A general education development program; and
- 9 (2) The number of persons participating in a
- 10 self-sufficiency contract who obtain or maintain employment for
- 11 six months, twelve months, eighteen months, and twenty-four months
- 12 after such persons are no longer eligible for cash assistance due
- 13 to obtaining employment.

14 Sec. 5. It is the intent of the Legislature that the

15 Department of Health and Human Services carry out the requirements

16 of sections 2 to 4 of this act within the limits of its annual

17 appropriation.

18 Sec. 6. This act terminates December 31, 2015.

19 Sec. 7. Original section 68-1708, Reissue Revised

20 Statutes of Nebraska, is repealed.

21 2. On page 1, strike beginning with "change" in line 2

22 through "education" in line 3 and insert "provide for satisfaction

23 of work activity requirements through education; to restrict use of

24 state funds; to provide for reports; to state intent".