



Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

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Summary HB 934 PN 1330

This legislation amends the Public Welfare Code to codify the Keystone Education Yields Success (KEYS) Program in the Department of Human Services.

This program allows eligible individuals who are receiving benefits through TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) or SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) to enroll and pursue a certificate or degree through an approved program in either:

- One of the Commonwealth's community colleges,
- A career or technical school registered with the Department of Education or
- A university within the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education

Approved programs will be those that assist the recipient in securing a job with a family-sustaining wage.

KEYS recipients will be permitted to count their class time and other time spent on class requirements toward the TANF work requirement for twenty-four months. Recipients may also be granted extensions for six month periods provided the recipient:

- Is enrolled in a program that will lead to a high-priority occupation;
- Maintains a 2.0 grade point average; and
- Makes satisfactory progress toward completing the program which includes completing:
 - All required developmental coursework and
 - Eight credits per semester

A recipient who, without good cause, fails to comply with the conditions of the KEYS program shall be terminated.

Effective Date

This act shall take effect in 60 days.

Amendment A02613

This amendment clarifies that the KEYS program is not an entitlement and makes changes required under federal law so as not to jeopardize federal funding.

More specifically, the contract review of provider submissions of child welfare out-of-home placement services is extended until 2016. Without this change, Title IV-E funds may not be provided. Family child day care homes would be defined and licensed instead of registered. This change ensures that the Child Care Development Block Grant is maintained and the Commonwealth is not subjected to financial penalties. Lastly, definitions of sibling and successor permanent legal custodian are added to comply with federal directives.