
VIRGINIA STATE BUDGET

1999 Session

Budget Bill - SB800 (Introduced)

Bill Order » Office of Health and Human Resources » Item 404

Department of Social Services

Item 404

First Year - FY1999 Second Year - FY2000

Employment Assistance Services (46200)	\$65,386,473	\$69,163,036
	\$63,194,804	\$98,375,750
Employment Services Payments (46207)	\$7,691,669	\$12,018,232
	\$5,500,000	\$16,151,332
Financial Assistance for Employment Services (46209)	\$5,726,253	\$5,676,253
		\$14,176,253
Individual and Family Economic Independence Services Through Employment Assistance Services (46210)	\$51,968,551	\$51,468,551
		\$53,568,551
Virginia Work Incentive Payment Program (46211)	\$0	\$14,479,614
Fund Sources:		
General	\$23,284,509	\$22,670,217
		\$27,170,217
Federal Trust	\$42,101,964	\$46,492,819
	\$39,910,295	\$71,205,533

Authority: Title 63.1, Chapters 6.2, 6.3, and 6.5, Code of Virginia; P.L. 104-193, Federal Code, as amended; Title IV, Part A, of the federal Social Security Act; *Sec. 5001, federal Balanced Budget Act of 1997.*

A. Included in the amount for Financial Assistance for Employment Services is \$1,098,403 from the general fund and \$2,164,708 from nongeneral funds the first year and \$1,098,403 from the general fund and \$2,164,708 from nongeneral funds the second year for services provided under the Food Stamp Employment Training Program.

B. The Department of Social Services, in collaboration with local departments of social services, shall maintain minimum performance standards for all local departments of social services participating in the Virginia Initiative for Employment, Not Welfare (VIEW) program. The department shall allocate VIEW funds to local departments of social services based on these performance standards and VIEW caseloads. The allocation formula shall be developed and revised in cooperation with the local social services departments and the Department of Planning and Budget.

C. Out of the appropriation for this Item, \$240,129 from nongeneral funds in the first year and \$240,129 from nongeneral funds in the second year shall be provided to Russell County, in collaboration with other public and private entities to develop and implement job placement, employment training, and skills training for participants in the Virginia Initiative for Employment, Not Welfare (VIEW) program. Funds from this appropriation may also be used in other contiguous localities (Planning District 1 and Planning District 2) with the approval of a steering committee composed of the directors of local departments of social services in the above-listed localities.

D. To the extent permitted by federal law, food stamp recipients subject to a work requirement pursuant to § 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Public Law Number 104-193, as amended, shall be permitted to satisfy such work requirement by providing volunteer services to a public or private, nonprofit agency for the number of hours per month determined by dividing the household's monthly food

stamp allotment by the federal minimum wage.

E. Out of the amount in Employment Services Payments, \$500,000 from the general fund, ~~\$1,000,000 and \$5,000,000~~ from nongeneral funds, and ~~\$6,191,669~~ from the Temporary Assistance to needy families (TANF) block grant the first year and ~~\$500,000 and \$5,000,000~~ from the general fund and ~~\$1,000,000~~ \$11,151,332 from nongeneral funds and ~~\$10,518,232~~ from the federal TANF block grant the second year are appropriated to assist hard-to-employ recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) to prepare for, obtain, and retain employment. *Any general fund amount in this Item appropriated and required to serve as match to legally committed federal Welfare-to-Work funds during the second year that is unexpended as of June 30, 2000, shall be carried forward and reappropriated for expenditure for the same purpose in the following year.*

F. Out of the appropriation for this Item, \$50,000 in the first year from the general fund shall be provided to Family Service of Central Virginia, Inc., for the Central Virginia Family Loan Program.

G. Out of this appropriation shall be provided \$500,000 in nongeneral funds from the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families block grant the first year for a demonstration of Virginia Individual Development Accounts (VIDAs), tax-exempt accounts for participants in the Virginia Initiative for Employment not Welfare program, when withdrawals are used to complete vocational school or college, purchase a home, or start a business. Sites will be established in five localities. The VIDA demonstration will be conducted with the cooperation of the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, Virginia Department of Social Services, local departments of social services, Virginia Commonwealth University, and relevant non-profit organizations. Any unexpended balance shall be carried forward and reappropriated in the second year for the purpose of the demonstration. An interim report shall be provided to the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees by December 1998, and status reports shall be provided annually thereafter.

H.1. Out of this appropriation shall be provided \$1,415,000 in nongeneral funds in the first year and \$1,415,000 in nongeneral funds in the second year from the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant for child care training of TANF recipients or a TANF-eligible family member. Regional training shall be developed at Norfolk State University, Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia State University, the Virginia Community College System, and private nonprofit agencies in cooperation with the Department of Social Services, local social services departments, and the Virginia League of Social Service Executives.

2. The Department of Social Services shall measure the effectiveness of these programs based on established outcome measures.

1.1. The Virginia Department of Social Services (DSS) shall make payments in an amount equal to the credit mentioned in § 58.1-339.5, Code of Virginia, under a program known as the "Virginia Work Incentive Payment Program" to all eligible families who make an application. The Department of Taxation shall make available to DSS a list of all persons who appear to be eligible to receive the credit with the necessary identifying information and the amount of taxes paid. DSS shall send applications to each of the persons listed by the Department of Taxation and shall make a payment in the amount of the credit (as calculated by the Department of Taxation) to each person who makes a full and complete application and is found to be eligible. No person filing an amended tax return shall be eligible to receive any additional payment or any adjustment to a prior payment under the Virginia Work Incentive Payment Program because of such amended return.

2. The Virginia Work Incentive Payment Program shall take effect for taxable year 1998 upon receipt of written notice from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that the Virginia Earned Income Tax Credit program enacted as Chapter 855, Acts of Assembly of 1998, will not be accepted under the conditions specified in Enactment 2 of that act.

3. The Virginia Work Incentive Payment Program shall not provide grants based upon any taxable year after taxable year 1998, if by July 1, 1999, the United States Department of Health and Human Services provides written

notice that the original income tax credit program as provided for by Chapter 855 (i) qualifies as a portion of the Commonwealth's maintenance of effort under its Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program; (ii) the Commonwealth is exempt from the reporting requirements found in § 275.3 of Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations for families receiving the Virginia earned income tax credit; and (iii) the exemption above will not disqualify the Commonwealth from receiving a workforce participation rate reduction based on a reduction in the TANF caseload, from receiving a high performance bonus, or from being considered for a reduction in penalties for failing to meet the workforce participation requirements.