

## HB 1289 -- Temporary Assistance Benefits for Needy Families

Sponsor: Gatschenberger

This bill requires the Department of Social Services to develop a program to test applicants for and recipients of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program when a case worker believes, based on reasonable suspicion, that the person engages in the illegal use of controlled substances. Applicants and recipients who test positive for the use of a controlled substance which has not been prescribed by a licensed health care provider will, after an administrative hearing by the Department of Social Services, be declared ineligible for TANF benefits for three years beginning on the date of the administrative hearing decision and will be referred by the department to a substance abuse treatment program approved by the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse within the Department of Mental Health. Any member of a household which includes a person who has been declared ineligible for TANF benefits, if otherwise eligible, will continue to receive payments through an appropriate protective payee.