

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 712

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE SHAUL (113).

1538H.02I

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 208, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to child care assistance.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 208, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 208.057, to read as follows:

- 208.057. 1. The department of social services shall develop and oversee the “Children and Low-Income Families Future” (CLIFF) program in which the child care assistance program under this chapter is modified to allow participants who wish to participate in the pilot program to continue to receive child care assistance while sharing in the cost of such assistance if their income exceeds the income eligibility limit. The pilot program shall initially be implemented in the counties of Greene, Jefferson, and Pemiscot.
2. The department shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with each county participating in the pilot program. The memorandum of understanding shall govern the implementation of the pilot program in such county including, but not limited to, how the county decides which and how many families can participate in the pilot program.
3. Each participating county shall receive a grant through the grant program established under subsection 5 of this section and funded through the fund established under subsection 4 of this section. Grant moneys may be used, at the county’s discretion, to cover the administrative costs of participating in the pilot program and the costs of providing continued benefits to families participating in the pilot program. Administrative

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17 costs of participating in the program shall equal no more than three percent of the amount
18 of grant moneys received.

19 4. There is hereby created in the state treasury the “Children and Low-Income
20 Families Future Program Fund”, consisting of any moneys that may be appropriated to the
21 fund. Funds appropriated under this section shall be used to provide grants to
22 participating counties for the purposes of this section. The state treasurer shall be
23 custodian of the fund. In accordance with sections 30.170 and 30.180, the state treasurer
24 may approve disbursements. The fund shall be a dedicated fund and, upon appropriation,
25 moneys in the fund shall be used solely for the administration of this section.
26 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080 to the contrary, any moneys remaining
27 in the fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the general revenue
28 fund. The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as other
29 funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be credited
30 to the fund.

31 5. The department shall promulgate rules to implement the administration of the
32 grant program. The department shall determine the amount of the grants and how such
33 grants shall be distributed among participating counties. Any rule or portion of a rule, as
34 that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this
35 section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions
36 of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are
37 nonseverable, and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to
38 chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are
39 subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule
40 proposed or adopted after August 28, 2017, shall be invalid and void.

41 6. Each participating county shall have the flexibility to design the pilot program
42 in a manner that best addresses the county’s specific community needs. In developing the
43 pilot program for the county, the county may limit participation to a reasonable percentage
44 of the county’s caseload for the child care assistance program. A county may also limit
45 participation in the pilot program to families who enter the child care assistance program
46 with children who are thirty-six months of age or younger. A participating county shall
47 continue to provide child care assistance for a period of up to two years for a group of
48 participants who have been receiving child care assistance from the county and whose
49 income exceeds the county-adopted income eligibility limit for the county’s child care
50 assistance program. The county shall require a parent who is receiving extended child care
51 assistance to pay a series of incremental increases in the portion of the parental share of
52 the child care costs on a scheduled basis based upon a formula established by the county;

53 except that, assistance shall not be provided if such income exceeds the maximum level of
54 eligibility for services set by federal law for a family of the same size. The county shall
55 assist participating families to achieve a gradual transition off of the child care assistance
56 over a two-year period. Each county shall set its own parental fee schedule and may
57 consult with the department on setting the parental fee schedule.

58 7. The pilot program shall begin July 1, 2018. A county shall operate the pilot
59 program for at least five years. Each participating county shall identify the families
60 participating in the pilot program in that county. The department shall collect all data on
61 the pilot program annually and shall evaluate and report to the general assembly annually
62 on the pilot program using measurable outcomes.

63 8. The department shall compile the data submitted by the counties and submit a
64 report on the pilot program with the department's findings and recommendations to the
65 general assembly. The department shall make its report available to the public on its
66 website and through other electronic means. The department shall submit its report to the
67 general assembly on or before October 1, 2023. The department's report shall include, but
68 need not be limited to, the following:

69 (1) The number of families who participated in the pilot program, by county and
70 statewide;

71 (2) The number of months that each family participated in the pilot program, by
72 county and statewide; and

73 (3) A summary and analysis by the department of the reasons why families stopped
74 participating in the pilot program, by county and statewide.

75 9. Under section 23.253 of the Missouri sunset act:

76 (1) The provisions of the new program authorized under this section shall
77 automatically sunset six years after the effective date of this section unless reauthorized by
78 an act of the general assembly;

79 (2) If such program is reauthorized, the program authorized under this section
80 shall automatically sunset twelve years after the effective date of the reauthorization of this
81 section; and

82 (3) This section shall terminate on September first of the calendar year immediately
83 following the calendar year in which the program authorized under this section is sunset.

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