

SPONSOR: Deaton

This bill requires individuals participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to comply with the work requirements described in federal statute and regulations. Any nonexempt participant who refuses or fails without good cause to comply with the work requirements shall be ineligible to participate in the program for the duration of the disqualification period as follows:

- (1) For the first occurrence of noncompliance, the individual shall be disqualified for three months;
- (2) For the second occurrence of noncompliance, the individual shall be disqualified for six months; and
- (3) For the third occurrence of noncompliance, the individual shall be disqualified permanently.

If a disqualified individual is the head of a household, the household shall be ineligible to participate in SNAP for a period not to exceed the lesser of either the duration of the ineligibility period of the disqualified individual or 180 days. A household disqualified may reestablish eligibility by meeting specified criteria. If a disqualified head of the household joins another household during the disqualification period, that household shall be ineligible for the remaining disqualification period.

Except in cases of permanent disqualification, an individual may resume participation in SNAP at the end of a disqualification period if the individual applies again and is in compliance with the work requirements. A disqualified individual may be permitted to resume participation during a disqualification period by becoming exempt from the work requirements. Also, an individual disqualified shall be entitled to a fair hearing under applicable federal and state law.

This bill is similar to SB 4 (2019).