

SBOL1415

**96th General Assembly
State of Illinois
2008-2009**

Introduced by Senator Wesley Layton

Introduced February 9, 2009

Synopsis as Introduced

Amends Temporary Assistance for Needy Families under the Public Aid Code. Adds drug policy, disciplines of unlawful recipients, and rewards for lawful recipients. Calls for more frequent interviews of recipients who are thought to be neglecting or abusing their children.

A BILL FOR

1 An Act concerning Honesty in Public Aid Act.

2
3 **Be it enacted by the People of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly.**

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5 (305 ILCS 5/4-7) (from Ch. 23, par. 4-7)

6
7 Sec. 4-7. Home Visits, Interviews ~~or~~ and other Communications. Each
8 family receiving aid shall be interviewed in person ~~or communicated with~~ in
9 investigations of applications for aid and at least once in each subsequent ~~12~~ 3 month
10 period to ascertain continuing need for such aid and to provide the child and his parents
11 or relatives with such service and guidance as will strengthen family life and aid them in
12 utilizing to the maximum their capacities for self-care, self-support, and responsible
13 citizenship. If any law is broken while receiving government aid, it will result in a
14 mandatory drug test and a home visit with in 14 days of the law being broken. People
15 who do not meet the requirements of the mandatory drug test or home visit shall be
16 subject to sanction under section 4-21. However, the Department ~~shall~~ will determine
17 those assistance units where the possibility for public assistance fraud or abuse is
18 greatest, or where there is the possibility of frequent changes in need or circumstances, or
19 where any child in the home may be an abused or neglected child as determined by the
20 Department of Children and Family Services under the Abused and Neglected Child
21 Reporting Act, as now or hereafter amended, and shall by rule provide for ~~more frequent~~
22 bi-weekly interviews of or communications with those assistance units and for the
23 implementation of necessary remedies under Sections 4-8 and 4-9 for those assistance
24 units. Written reports of such interviews or communications and any related remedies
25 ~~shall~~ will become a part of the record in every case.

26 (Source: P.A. 85-1209.)

27
28 305 ILCS 5/4-21)

29 Sec. 4-21. Sanctions.

30
31 (a) The Illinois Department shall, by rule, establish a system of
32 sanctions for persons who fail to cooperate, without good cause, with employment, ~~and~~
33 training programs, drug tests, home visits, interviews, or other programs under this
34 Article or Article IXA or who fail to cooperate with child support programs under this
35 Article, Article X, or Title IV of the federal Social Security Act. The sanctions may
36 discontinue all or part of the cash grant provided under this Article. The sanctions ~~may be~~
37 ~~time limited or~~ will continue until the person cooperates in the program. The sanctions
38 may be progressive in that a second, third, or further sanction may be progressively more
39 severe ~~or last longer.~~

40 (b) The Illinois Department shall, by rule, define what constitutes failure to
41 cooperate and what constitutes good cause which would excuse that failure.

42 (Source: P.A. 90-17, eff. 7-1-97.)