



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HB 2452

cash assistance; eligibility; children

Prime Sponsor: Representative Weninger, LD 17

X Committee on Children and Family Affairs

Caucus and COW

House Engrossed

OVERVIEW

HB 2452 requires the Department of Economic Security (DES) to allow cash assistance for an otherwise eligible dependent child while the dependent child is in the legal custody of the Department of Child Safety (DCS).

PROVISIONS

1. Allows an eligible dependent child to receive cash assistance during the period in which the dependent child is in the legal custody of DCS and is placed in unlicensed kinship foster care with a non-parent relative.
2. Requires DES to allow cash assistance for an otherwise eligible child who meets one of the following:
 - a. The court has placed the child with a non-parent relative.
 - b. The child's parents are deceased and the child is living with a non-parent relative.
 - c. A non-parent relative has custody of the child because the child is abandoned.
3. Makes technical changes.

CURRENT LAW

A.R.S § 46-292 (H) states that a dependent child or children who are born during one of the following time periods are not eligible for assistance. These periods include:

1. The period in which the parent or other relative is receiving assistance benefits.
2. The temporary period in which the parent or other relative is ineligible pursuant to a penalty imposed by the department for failure to comply with benefit eligibility requirements, after which the parent or other relative is eligible for a continuation of benefits.
3. Any period after November 1, 1995 that is less than sixty months between a voluntary withdrawal from program benefits or a period of ineligibility for program benefits which immediately followed a period during which program benefits were received and a subsequent reapplication and eligibility approval for benefits.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Benefit-capped children (Family Benefit Cap): There is no increase in cash assistance for the birth of additional children after the family begins to receive cash assistance, with some limited exceptions ([Arizona's Kinship Foster Care Program Report for SFY 2014](#)).