

Bill No. CS for CS for SB 2524, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. ____

<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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11 Senator Bankhead moved the following amendment:

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13 **Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

14 On page 58 between lines 17 and 18

15

16 insert:

17 Section 36. Section 414.155, Florida Statutes, is
18 created to read:

19 414.155 Relocation assistance program.--

20 (1) The Legislature recognizes that the need for
 21 public assistance may arise because a family is located in an
 22 area with limited employment opportunities, because of
 23 geographic isolation, because of formidable transportation
 24 barriers, because of isolation from their extended family, or
 25 because domestic violence interferes with the ability of a
 26 parent to maintain self-sufficiency. Accordingly there is
 27 established a voluntary program to assist families in
 28 relocating to communities with greater opportunities for
 29 self-sufficiency.

30 (2) The relocation assistance program shall involve
 31 five steps by the Department of Children and Family Services

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1 and the Department of Labor and Employment Security:

2 (a) A determination that the family is a WAGES Program
3 participant or that all requirements of eligibility for the
4 WAGES Program would likely be met.

5 (b) A determination that there is a basis for
6 believing that relocation will contribute to the ability of
7 the applicant to achieve self-sufficiency. For example, the
8 applicant:

9 1. Is unlikely to achieve independence at the current
10 community of residence;

11 2. Has secured a job that requires relocation to
12 another community;

13 3. Has a family support network in another community;

14 or

15 4. Is determined pursuant to criteria or procedures
16 established by the WAGES Program State Board of Directors to
17 be a victim of domestic violence who would experience reduced
18 probability of further incidents through relocation.

19 (c) Establishment of a relocation plan, including a
20 budget and such requirements as are necessary to prevent abuse
21 of the benefit and to provide an assurance that the applicant
22 will relocate. The plan may require that expenditures be made
23 on behalf of the recipient; however, the plan must include
24 provisions to protect the safety of victims of domestic
25 violence and avoid provisions that place them in anticipated
26 danger. The payment to defray relocation expenses shall be
27 limited to an amount not to exceed 4 months' temporary cash
28 assistance, based on family size, and will not count towards
29 the time limitations stated in s. 414.105. The Department of
30 Children and Family Services may adopt rules necessary to
31 administer this section.

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1 (d) A determination, pursuant to criteria adopted by
2 the WAGES Program State Board of Directors, that a Florida
3 community receiving a relocated family has the capacity to
4 provide needed services and employment opportunities. The
5 Department of Labor and Employment Security may adopt rules
6 necessary to establish criteria to be used by the WAGES
7 Program State Board of Directors in administering this
8 paragraph.

9 (e) Monitoring the relocation.

10 (3) A family receiving relocation assistance for
11 reasons other than domestic violence must sign an agreement
12 restricting the family from applying for temporary cash
13 assistance for 6 months, unless an emergency is demonstrated
14 to the department. If a demonstrated emergency forces the
15 family to reapply for temporary cash assistance within 6
16 months after receiving a relocation assistance payment,
17 repayment must be made on a prorated basis over an 8-month
18 period and subtracted from any regular payment of temporary
19 cash assistance for which the applicant may be eligible. The
20 Department of Children and Family Services may adopt rules
21 necessary to administer this section.

22 (4) Nothing herein shall be construed to allow any
23 WAGES Coalition or state agency to require relocation of a
24 WAGES participant for the purposes of this section or any
25 other.

26 (5) When the relocation plan for a WAGES participant
27 involves relocating the participant within the state, the plan
28 must be approved by the local WAGES coalition in the district
29 from which the participant is moving and the local WAGES
30 coalition in the district to which the participant is moving
31 before the effective date of the move.

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[Renumber subsequent section(s).]

===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

And the title is amended as follows:

On page 5, line 10, after the semicolon

insert:

creating s. 414.155, F.S.; providing a relocation assistance program for families receiving or eligible to receive WAGES Program assistance; providing responsibilities of the Department of Children and Family Services and the Department of Labor and Employment Security; providing for a relocation plan and for monitoring of the relocation; requiring agreements restricting application for temporary cash assistance for a specified period; providing exceptions; requiring repayment of temporary cash assistance provided under certain circumstances, and reduced eligibility for future assistance; providing rulemaking authority for the Department of Children and Family Services and the Department of Labor and Employment Security; prescribing that the relocation assistance program shall not be construed to require relocation of a WAGES participant; requiring approval of the relocation plan of a WAGES participant;