

Bill No. CS for SB 2050, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. \_\_\_\_

<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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Senator King moved the following amendment to amendment (632043):

**Senate Amendment**

On page 142, line 14, through page 148, line 12, delete those lines

and insert:

(4) A participant may not receive temporary cash assistance under this subsection, in combination with other periods of temporary cash assistance for longer than a lifetime limit of 48 months. Hardship exemptions to the time limitations of this chapter shall be limited to 20 percent of the average monthly caseload ~~participants in all subsequent years~~, as determined by the department in cooperation with Workforce Florida, Inc. ~~and approved by the WAGES Program State Board of Directors.~~ Criteria for hardship exemptions include:

- (a) Diligent participation in activities, combined with inability to obtain employment.
- (b) Diligent participation in activities, combined

Bill No. CS for SB 2050, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. \_\_\_\_

1 with extraordinary barriers to employment, including the  
2 conditions which may result in an exemption to work  
3 requirements.

4 (c) Significant barriers to employment, combined with  
5 a need for additional time.

6 (d) Diligent participation in activities and a need by  
7 teen parents for an exemption in order to have 24 months of  
8 eligibility beyond receipt of the high school diploma or  
9 equivalent.

10 (e) A recommendation of extension for a minor child of  
11 a participating family that has reached the end of the  
12 eligibility period for temporary cash assistance. The  
13 recommendation must be the result of a review which determines  
14 that the termination of the child's temporary cash assistance  
15 would be likely to result in the child being placed into  
16 emergency shelter or foster care. Temporary cash assistance  
17 shall be provided through a protective payee. Staff of the  
18 ~~Children and Families Program Office~~ of the department shall  
19 conduct all assessments in each case in which it appears a  
20 child may require continuation of temporary cash assistance  
21 through a protective payee.

22

23 ~~At the recommendation of the local WAGES coalition, temporary~~  
24 ~~cash assistance under a hardship exemption for a participant~~  
25 ~~who is eligible for work activities and who is not working~~  
26 ~~shall be reduced by 10 percent. Upon the employment of the~~  
27 ~~participant, full benefits shall be restored.~~

28 (5)~~(3)~~ In addition to the exemptions listed in  
29 subsection (3)~~(2)~~, a victim of domestic violence may be  
30 granted a hardship exemption if the effects of such domestic  
31 violence delay or otherwise interrupt or adversely affect the

Bill No. CS for SB 2050, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. \_\_\_\_

1 individual's participation in the program. ~~Hardship exemptions~~  
2 ~~granted under this subsection shall not be subject to the~~  
3 ~~percentage limitations in subsection (2).~~

4 (6)(4) The department, in cooperation with Workforce  
5 Florida, Inc., shall establish a procedure for ~~reviewing and~~  
6 ~~approving hardship exemptions and for reviewing hardship cases~~  
7 ~~at least once every 2 years. Regional workforce boards, and~~  
8 ~~the local WAGES coalitions~~ may assist in making these  
9 determinations. The composition of any review panel must  
10 generally reflect the racial, gender, and ethnic diversity of  
11 the community as a whole. Members of a review panel shall  
12 serve without compensation but are entitled to receive  
13 reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses as provided in  
14 s. 112.016.

15 ~~(5)~~ ~~The cumulative total of all hardship exemptions~~  
16 ~~may not exceed 12 months, may include reduced benefits at the~~  
17 ~~option of the community review panel, and shall, in~~  
18 ~~combination with other periods of temporary cash assistance as~~  
19 ~~an adult, total no more than 48 months of temporary cash~~  
20 ~~assistance. If an individual fails to comply with program~~  
21 ~~requirements during a hardship exemption period, the hardship~~  
22 ~~exemption shall be removed.~~

23 (7)(6) For individuals who have moved from another  
24 state, ~~the~~ ~~and have legally resided in this state for less~~  
25 ~~than 12 months, the time limitation for temporary cash~~  
26 ~~assistance shall be the shorter of the respective time~~  
27 ~~limitations used in the two states, and months in which~~  
28 temporary cash assistance was received under a block grant  
29 program that provided temporary assistance for needy families  
30 in any state shall count towards the cumulative 48-month  
31 benefit limit for temporary cash assistance.

Bill No. CS for SB 2050, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. \_\_\_\_

1           (8) For individuals subject to a time limitation under  
2 the Family Transition Act of 1993, that time limitation shall  
3 continue to apply. Months in which temporary cash assistance  
4 was received through the family transition program shall count  
5 towards the time limitations under this chapter.

6           (9) Except when temporary cash assistance was received  
7 through the family transition program, the calculation of the  
8 time limitation for temporary cash assistance shall begin with  
9 the first month of receipt of temporary cash assistance after  
10 the effective date of this act.

11           (10) Child-only cases are not subject to time  
12 limitations, and temporary cash assistance received while an  
13 individual is a minor child shall not count towards time  
14 limitations.

15           (11) An individual who receives benefits under the  
16 Supplemental Security Income(SSI)program or the Social  
17 Security Disability Insurance(SSDI)program is not subject to  
18 time limitations. An individual who has applied for  
19 supplemental security income (SSI) or supplemental security  
20 disability income (SSDI), but has not yet received a  
21 determination must be granted an extension of time limits  
22 until the individual receives a final determination on the SSI  
23 application. Determination shall be considered final once all  
24 appeals have been exhausted, benefits have been received, or  
25 denial has been accepted without any appeal. While awaiting a  
26 final determination, such individual must continue to meet all  
27 program requirements assigned to the participant based on  
28 medical ability to comply. If a final determination results in  
29 the denial of benefits for supplemental security income (SSI)  
30 or supplemental security disability income (SSDI), any period  
31 during which the recipient received assistance under this

Bill No. CS for SB 2050, 1st Eng.

Amendment No. \_\_\_\_

1 ~~chapter shall count against Extensions of time limits shall be~~  
2 ~~within the recipient's 48-month lifetime limit. Hardship~~  
3 ~~exemptions granted under this subsection shall not be subject~~  
4 ~~to the percentage limitations in subsection (2).~~

5 (12) A person who is totally responsible for the  
6 personal care of a disabled family member is not subject to  
7 time limitations if the need for the care is verified and  
8 alternative care is not available for the family member. The  
9 department shall annually evaluate an individual's  
10 qualifications for this exemption.

11 (13) A member of the ~~WAGES Program~~ staff of the  
12 regional workforce board shall interview and assess the  
13 employment prospects and barriers of each participant who is  
14 within 6 months of reaching the 24-month time limit. The  
15 staff member shall assist the participant in identifying  
16 actions necessary to become employed prior to reaching the  
17 benefit time limit for temporary cash assistance and, if  
18 appropriate, shall refer the participant for services that  
19 could facilitate employment.

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