

By the Committee on Reapportionment and Representative  
Garcia

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to temporary decennial census  
3           employment; providing that income earned as a  
4           temporary federal census worker shall be  
5           disregarded in determination of eligibility for  
6           certain public assistance programs; providing  
7           limitations; providing an effective date.  
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9           WHEREAS, ensuring that every person in the United  
10          States has the opportunity to be counted in Census 2000 will  
11          require employment of hundreds of thousands of persons by the  
12          Federal Census Bureau for neighborhood nonresponse followup  
13          operations, and  
14                WHEREAS, these followup operations are especially  
15          crucial in historically undercounted and hard-to-count  
16          neighborhoods, including many economically disadvantaged  
17          neighborhoods, and  
18                WHEREAS, in the past, the Census Bureau has endeavored  
19          to hire individuals from the communities in which they live,  
20          finding that these individuals provide a more thorough and  
21          accurate count, particularly in hard-to-count neighborhoods,  
22          and  
23                WHEREAS, Census 2000 offers unique, well-paying,  
24          part-time work opportunities for persons receiving public  
25          assistance, providing valuable work skills and training that  
26          can facilitate permanent entry into the workforce, and  
27                WHEREAS, in 1990, the Census Bureau obtained a federal  
28          exemption to exclude the income of census workers from public  
29          assistance financial eligibility calculations, thus allowing  
30          such workers to be paid for census employment without loss of  
31          eligibility under public assistance programs, and

1           WHEREAS, under current law, eligibility standards for  
2 such public assistance programs are determined by the states,  
3 rather than the Federal Government, and

4           WHEREAS, providing such an exclusion for temporary  
5 census workers with Census 2000 provides an opportunity for  
6 the state to help ensure that the Census Bureau will have  
7 enough workers to conduct the census, and that the census will  
8 be thorough and accurate, NOW, THEREFORE,

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10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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12           Section 1. Temporary decennial census  
13 employment.--Notwithstanding any provision of state law, and  
14 within the procedures, requirements, and limitations of  
15 federal law and regulation, income earned through temporary  
16 decennial census employment shall be disregarded when  
17 determining eligibility or continued eligibility for  
18 participation in programs requiring a financial determination  
19 for receipt of benefits, payments, or services, including the  
20 WAGES Program under chapter 414, Florida Statutes, subsidized  
21 child care under s. 402.3015, Florida Statutes, and any other  
22 social or economic assistance funded through the state share  
23 of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant  
24 funds. For purposes of this section, "temporary decennial  
25 census employment" means employment for 120 days or less,  
26 within the period January 1, 2000, to December 31, 2000, with  
27 the United States Department of Commerce as a census-taker or  
28 block canvasser.

29           Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
30 law.

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HOUSE SUMMARY

Provides for exclusion of income earned by short-term federal census workers, during no more than 120 days' employment in the year 2000, from financial eligibility determinations for participation in the WAGES Program, subsidized child care, or other social or economic assistance supported by federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant funds.