

SB2722



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

SB2722

Introduced 1/12/2024, by Sen. Laura Fine

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

305 ILCS 5/12-4.11

from Ch. 23, par. 12-4.11

Amends the Administration Article of the Illinois Public Aid Code. Provides that beginning October 1, 2024, and each October 1 thereafter, the maximum benefit levels under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program shall be annually adjusted to remain equal to at least 40% (rather than 35%) of the most recent poverty guidelines updated periodically by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

LRB103 34759 KTG 64609 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning public aid.

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

4 Section 5. The Illinois Public Aid Code is amended by
5 changing Section 12-4.11 as follows:

6 (305 ILCS 5/12-4.11) (from Ch. 23, par. 12-4.11)

7 Sec. 12-4.11. Grant amounts. The Department, with due
8 regard for and subject to budgetary limitations, shall
9 establish grant amounts for each of the programs, by
10 regulation. The grant amounts may vary by program, size of
11 assistance unit and geographic area. Grant amounts under the
12 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program may not
13 vary on the basis of a TANF recipient's county of residence.

14 Aid payments shall not be reduced except: (1) for changes
15 in the cost of items included in the grant amounts, or (2) for
16 changes in the expenses of the recipient, or (3) for changes in
17 the income or resources available to the recipient, or (4) for
18 changes in grants resulting from adoption of a consolidated
19 grant amount.

20 The maximum benefit levels provided to TANF recipients
21 shall increase as follows: beginning October 1, 2023, the
22 Department of Human Services shall increase TANF grant amounts
23 in effect on September 30, 2023 to at least 35% of the most

1 recent United States Department of Health and Human Services
2 Federal Poverty Guidelines for each family size. Beginning
3 October 1, 2024, and each October 1 thereafter, the maximum
4 benefit levels shall be annually adjusted to remain equal to
5 at least 40% ~~35%~~ of the most recent poverty guidelines updated
6 periodically in the Federal Register by the U.S. Department of
7 Health and Human Services under the authority of 42 U.S.C.
8 9902(2) for each family size.

9 TANF grants for child-only assistance units shall be at
10 least 75% of TANF grants for assistance units of the same size
11 that consist of a caretaker relative with children.

12 In fixing standards to govern payments or reimbursements
13 for funeral and burial expenses, the Department shall
14 establish a minimum allowable amount of not less than \$1,000
15 for Department payment of funeral services and not less than
16 \$500 for Department payment of burial or cremation services.
17 On January 1, 2006, July 1, 2006, and July 1, 2007, the
18 Department shall increase the minimum reimbursement amount for
19 funeral and burial expenses under this Section by a percentage
20 equal to the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index
21 for All Urban Consumers, if any, during the 12 months
22 immediately preceding that January 1 or July 1. In
23 establishing the minimum allowable amount, the Department
24 shall take into account the services essential to a dignified,
25 low-cost (i) funeral and (ii) burial or cremation, including
26 reasonable amounts that may be necessary for burial space and

1 cemetery charges, and any applicable taxes or other required
2 governmental fees or charges. If no person has agreed to pay
3 the total cost of the (i) funeral and (ii) burial or cremation
4 charges, the Department shall pay the vendor the actual costs
5 of the (i) funeral and (ii) burial or cremation, or the minimum
6 allowable amount for each service as established by the
7 Department, whichever is less, provided that the Department
8 reduces its payments by the amount available from the
9 following sources: the decedent's assets and available
10 resources and the anticipated amounts of any death benefits
11 available to the decedent's estate, and amounts paid and
12 arranged to be paid by the decedent's legally responsible
13 relatives. A legally responsible relative is expected to pay
14 (i) funeral and (ii) burial or cremation expenses unless
15 financially unable to do so.

16 Nothing contained in this Section or in any other Section
17 of this Code shall be construed to prohibit the Illinois
18 Department (1) from consolidating existing standards on the
19 basis of any standards which are or were in effect on, or
20 subsequent to July 1, 1969, or (2) from employing any
21 consolidated standards in determining need for public aid and
22 the amount of money payment or grant for individual recipients
23 or recipient families.

24 (Source: P.A. 103-8, eff. 6-7-23.)