96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2009 and 2010

HB0399

Introduced 2/3/2009, by Rep. Harry Osterman

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

| 305 ILCS 5/3-1 | from Ch. 23, p | ar. 3-1 |
|----------------|----------------|---------|
| 305 ILCS 5/3-5 | from Ch. 23, p | ar. 3-5 |

Amends the Illinois Public Aid Code. In provisions concerning the Aid to the Aged, Blind or Disabled (AABD) program, eliminates a provision that financial aid for certain refugees or asylees who have become ineligible for federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) shall be available until July 1, 2009. Provides that financial aid for such refugees or asylees shall be equal to 90% of the standard monthly SSI grant (instead of shall not exceed \$500 per month). Effective immediately.

LRB096 04882 DRJ 14948 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT MAY APPLY HB0399

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 Sections 3-1 and 3-5 as follows:

6 (305 ILCS 5/3-1) (from Ch. 23, par. 3-1)

7 Sec. 3-1. Eligibility Requirements. Financial aid in 8 meeting basic maintenance requirements for a livelihood 9 compatible with health and well-being shall be given under this 10 Article to or in behalf of aged, blind, or disabled persons who meet the eligibility conditions of Sections 3-1.1 through 11 3-1.7. Financial aid under this Article shall be available only 12 for persons who are receiving Supplemental Security Income 13 14 (SSI) or who have been found ineligible for SSI (i) on the basis of income or (ii) due to expiration of the period of 15 16 eligibility for refugees and asylees pursuant to 8 U.S.C. 17 1612(a)(2). Financial aid based on item (ii) of this paragraph shall be available until July 1, 2009. 18

19 "Aged person" means a person who has attained age 65, as 20 demonstrated by such evidence of age as the Illinois Department 21 may by rule prescribe.

22 "Blind person" means a person who has no vision or whose 23 vision with corrective glasses is so defective as to prevent

the performance of ordinary duties or tasks for which eyesight 1 2 is essential. The Illinois Department shall define blindness in terms of ophthalmic measurements or ocular conditions. For 3 of this Act, an Illinois Disabled Person 4 purposes 5 Identification Card issued pursuant to The Illinois 6 Identification Card Act, indicating that the person thereon 7 named has a Type 3 disability shall be evidence that such 8 person is a blind person within the meaning of this Section; 9 however, such a card shall not qualify such person for aid as a 10 blind person under this Act, and eligibility for aid as a blind 11 person shall be determined as provided in this Act.

12 "Disabled person" means a person age 18 or over who has a 13 physical or mental impairment, disease, or loss which is of a 14 permanent nature and which substantially impairs his ability to 15 perform labor or services or to engage in useful occupations 16 for which he is qualified, as determined by rule and regulation 17 of the Illinois Department. For purposes of this Act, an Illinois Disabled Person Identification Card issued pursuant 18 19 to The Illinois Identification Card Act, indicating that the 20 person thereon named has a Type 1 or 2, Class 2 disability shall be evidence that such person is a disabled person under 21 22 this Section; however, such a card shall not qualify such 23 person for aid as a disabled person under this Act, and eligibility for aid as a disabled person shall be determined as 24 25 provided in this Act. If federal law or regulation permit or require the inclusion of blind or disabled persons whose 26

blindness or disability is not of the degree specified in the 1 2 foregoing definitions, or permit or require the inclusion of 3 disabled persons under age 18 or aged persons under age 65, the Illinois Department, upon written approval of the Governor, may 4 5 provide by rule that all aged, blind or disabled persons toward 6 whose aid federal funds are available be eligible for assistance under this Article as is given to those who meet the 7 8 foregoing definitions of blind person and disabled person or 9 aged person.

10 (Source: P.A. 93-741, eff. 7-15-04; 94-918, eff. 6-26-06.)

11 (305 ILCS 5/3-5) (from Ch. 23, par. 3-5)

HB0399

12 Sec. 3-5. Amount of aid. The amount and nature of financial 13 aid granted to or in behalf of aged, blind, or disabled persons 14 shall be determined in accordance with the standards, grant 15 amounts, rules and regulations of the Illinois Department. Due 16 regard shall be given to the requirements and conditions existing in each case, and to the amount of property owned and 17 18 the income, money contributions, and other support, and 19 resources received or obtainable by the person, from whatever source. However, the amount and nature of any financial aid is 20 not affected by the payment of any grant under the "Senior 21 22 and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief Citizens and Pharmaceutical Assistance Act" or any distributions or items of 23 24 income described under subparagraph (X) of paragraph (2) of subsection (a) of Section 203 of the Illinois Income Tax Act. 25

1 The aid shall be sufficient, when added to all other income, 2 money contributions and support, to provide the person with a 3 grant in the amount established by Department regulation for 4 such a person, based upon standards providing a livelihood 5 compatible with health and well-being. Financial aid under this 6 Article granted to persons who have been found ineligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) due to expiration of the 7 period of eligibility for refugees and asylees pursuant to 8 8 9 U.S.C. 1612(a)(2) shall be equal to 90% of the standard monthly 10 SSI grant not exceed \$500 per month.

11 (Source: P.A. 93-741, eff. 7-15-04.)

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon becoming law.