

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. House Bill 934

PRINTER NO. 1946

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

April 8, 2015

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Christiana

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

House Bill 934 amends the Public Welfare Code.

Keystone Education Yields Success:

This program allows eligible individuals who are receiving benefits through TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) or SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) to enroll and pursue a certificate or degree through an approved program in either:

- One of the Commonwealth’s community colleges,
- A career or technical school registered with the Department of Education or
- A university within the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education

Approved programs will be those that assist the recipient in securing a job with a family-sustaining wage.

KEYS recipients will be permitted to count their class time and other time spent on class requirements toward the TANF work requirement for twenty-four months. Recipients may also be granted extensions for six month periods provided the recipient:

- Is enrolled in a program that will lead to a high-priority occupation;
- Maintains a 2.0 grade point average; and
- Makes satisfactory progress toward completing the program which includes completing:
 - All required developmental coursework and
 - Eight credits per semester

A recipient who, without good cause, fails to comply with the conditions of the KEYS program shall be removed from the program.

The KEYS program will not be an entitlement. Services shall only be available to the extent that there is available funding.

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Children and Youth Provider Documentation:

The bill provides statutory authority for the Department’s review process of providers’ costs to support the Department’s claim for federal funds and State reimbursement. The authority is extended for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

Miscellaneous Provisions:

Family child day care homes would be defined and licensed instead of registered. This change ensures that the Child Care Development Block Grant is maintained and the Commonwealth is not subjected to financial penalties.

In addition, definitions of sibling and successor permanent legal custodian are added to comply with federal directives.

Effective Date:

This act shall take effect immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Keystone Education Yields Success program will have no fiscal impact to the Commonwealth. Services will only be provided if there is funding available.

Children and Youth Provider Documentation extension has no negative impact on the General Fund; however, this section of the bill is necessary to ensure the continuation of \$30.8 million in Federal Title IV-E funding.

The miscellaneous provisions will have no fiscal impact to the Commonwealth.