

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1172 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY WASHINGTON, KITCHEN, BREWSTER, COSTA, FONTANA,
HUGHES, VULAKOVICH, WOZNIAK AND TARTAGLIONE,
NOVEMBER 15, 2013

REFERRED TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE, NOVEMBER 15, 2013

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), entitled "An
2 act to consolidate, editorially revise, and codify the public
3 welfare laws of the Commonwealth," in public assistance,
4 providing for placement screening.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. The act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known
8 as the Public Welfare Code, is amended by adding a section to
9 read:

10 Section 442.4. Placement screenings.--(a) The county agency
11 shall screen a child who is placed outside the child's home in a
12 foster care or adoption assistance program and who is not
13 eligible to receive federally funded Aid to Families with
14 Dependent Children - Foster Care (AFDC-FC) benefits for Federal
15 Supplemental Security Income (SSI) eligibility at the time of
16 placement for potential eligibility for the Federal SSI program
17 utilizing the guidelines established under the Social Security
18 Act (49 Stat. 620, 42 U.S.C. § 301 et seq.). If the child is

1 determined to be eligible through the screening process, the
2 county agency shall submit an application for benefits to the
3 Social Security Administration on behalf of the child within
4 thirty days of completion of the screening.

5 (b) (1) Prior to the termination of jurisdiction over a
6 dependent child who is 18 years of age or older, the county
7 agency shall screen the child for the Federal SSI program
8 utilizing the guidelines established under the Social Security
9 Act.

10 (2) The screening shall use the Title XVI of the Social
11 Security Act criteria for eligibility and shall occur when the
12 child is at least 17 years of age and not older than 17 years
13 and six months of age. The county agency shall submit an
14 application to the Social Security Administration on behalf of a
15 child who is screened as being likely to be eligible for Federal
16 SSI benefits 90 days prior to the child reaching 18 years of
17 age.

18 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.