

AMENDMENTS TO LB 368

Introduced by Health and Human Services

1           1. Strike the original sections and insert the following  
2 new sections:

3           Section 1. The Legislature finds that:

4           (1) Work experience is necessary to obtain employment in  
5 a competitive job market;

6           (2) Businesses find creating capacity to add employees  
7 during a time of economic recovery challenging;

8           (3) Subsidized employment can benefit employers and  
9 workers in need of experience;

10           (4) Increasing opportunities for public assistance  
11 recipients to engage in meaningful workplace experience can  
12 significantly contribute to their long-term employability;

13           (5) Providing subsidized employment can also help  
14 businesses to grow; and

15           (6) States nationwide provide subsidized employment  
16 to public assistance recipients in order to aid employers in  
17 developing work placements for public assistance recipients.

18           Sec. 2. For purposes of sections 1 to 7 of this act:

19           (1) Aid to dependent children program means the program  
20 described in section 43-512; and

21           (2) Participant means an individual who qualifies for  
22 the aid to dependent children program services with a family  
23 income equal to or less than two hundred percent of the Office of

1 Management and Budget income poverty guideline.

2           Sec. 3. (1) The Subsidized Employment Pilot Program is  
3 created within the Department of Health and Human Services to  
4 provide opportunities for employers and participants in the aid to  
5 dependent children program to achieve subsidized employment.

6           (2) The department shall establish a partnership between  
7 an entity which contracts with the department pursuant to section  
8 68-1722 to provide case management services in the aid to dependent  
9 children program and a nonprofit organization.

10           (3) The Department of Labor shall establish a partnership  
11 with the nonprofit organization described in subsection (2) of this  
12 section to assist in the recruitment of participants and employers  
13 for the pilot program.

14           (4) The nonprofit organization described in subsection  
15 (2) of this section shall:

16           (a) Establish an application process for employers to  
17 participate in the pilot program. Such application process shall  
18 include, but not be limited to, a requirement that employer  
19 applicants submit a plan including, but not limited to, the  
20 following criteria:

21           (i) Initial client assessment, job development, job  
22 placement, and employment retention services;

23           (ii) A strategy to place participants in in-demand jobs;  
24 and

25           (iii) Other program guidelines or criteria for the pilot  
26 program as needed;

27           (b) Recruit participants for the pilot program, with

1 assistance from the Department of Health and Human Services,  
2 the Department of Labor, and an entity which contracts with the  
3 department pursuant to section 68-1722 to provide case management  
4 services in the aid to dependent children program;

5 (c) Recruit employers for the pilot program, with  
6 assistance from the Department of Labor;

7 (d) Determine participant eligibility for the pilot  
8 program and assist with employer and employee matching;

9 (e) Ensure that the pilot program operates in both rural  
10 and urban areas. To ensure that the pilot program operates in both  
11 rural and urban areas, such nonprofit organization may enter into  
12 subcontracts with other nonprofit entities;

13 (f) Gather the data and performance measures as described  
14 in section 5 of this act; and

15 (g) Submit an electronic report on or before September  
16 15 of each year to the Health and Human Services Committee of the  
17 Legislature containing the data and performance measures described  
18 in section 5 of this act.

19 Sec. 4. Subsidies under the Subsidized Employment Pilot  
20 Program created pursuant to section 3 of this act shall be capped  
21 at the prevailing wage and shall be provided for no more than  
22 forty hours per week for not more than six months, on the following  
23 scale:

24 (1) One hundred percent in months one and two;

25 (2) Seventy-five percent in month three;

26 (3) Fifty percent in months four and five; and

27 (4) Twenty-five percent in month six.

1           Sec. 5. The nonprofit organization described in  
2 subsection (2) of section 3 of this act shall ensure the gathering  
3 and reporting of the following performance measures:

4           (1) Number of employees participating in the Subsidized  
5 Employment Pilot Program;

6           (2) Length of time each employee has participated in the  
7 program;

8           (3) Wages paid to employees in the program;

9           (4) Employment status of each employee at completion of  
10 his or her participation in the program, six months after such  
11 completion, and twelve months after such completion;

12           (5) Wages of each employee at completion of his or her  
13 participation in the program, six months after such completion, and  
14 twelve months after such completion;

15           (6) Number of employers participating in the program; and

16           (7) Length of time each employer has participated in the  
17 program.

18           Sec. 6. The Subsidized Employment Pilot Program created  
19 under section 3 of this act terminates on July 1, 2018.

20           Sec. 7. The Department of Health and Human Services may  
21 adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out sections 1  
22 to 6 of this act.

23           Sec. 8. It is the intent of the Legislature to  
24 appropriate one million dollars each fiscal year for FY2014-15 to  
25 FY2017-18 from funds available to the federal Temporary Assistance  
26 for Needy Families program, 42 U.S.C. 601 et seq., as such sections  
27 existed on January 1, 2013, to carry out sections 1 to 6 of this

1 act. Any of such funds which are unexpended on June 30, 2018,  
2 shall lapse to the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families  
3 program on such date.

4           Sec. 9. This act becomes operative on July 1, 2014.