

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 31, 2001
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 27, 2001
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2001–02 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 144

Introduced by Assembly Member Cedillo
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Aroner, Chan, Diaz, Dutra,
Firebaugh, Goldberg, Keeley, Koretz, Liu, Negrete McLeod,
Oropeza, Salinas, and Strom-Martin)
(Coauthors: Senators Chesbro, Kuehl, Murray, Perata, and
Vasconcellos)

January 25, 2001

An act to amend Section 11155 of, and to add Section 18901.8 to, the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to human services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 144, as amended, Cedillo. Public social services: eligibility: vehicles.

Existing law provides for the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program and other social services programs, under which each county provides cash assistance and other benefits to qualified low-income families and individuals.

This bill would add to resource exemptions applicable to the CalWORKs program an exemption for the full value of one motor vehicle, *and* the full value of ~~any motor vehicles used for employment, education, or training purposes, and up to \$10,000 of the value of each additional motor vehicle~~ *an additional motor vehicle when more than*

one adult resides in the family or household and at least one adult reports earned income.

By increasing amounts of income and resources that will not be considered in determining CalWORKs recipient eligibility, the bill would increase the class of persons eligible for the CalWORKs program, and so would impose a state-mandated local program.

Existing law continuously appropriates moneys from the General Fund to defray a portion of county costs under the CalWORKs program.

This bill would, instead, provide that the continuous appropriation would not be made for the purpose of funding the resource exemption.

Existing federal law provides for the Food Stamp Program, under which food stamps are distributed to eligible households. Under existing state law, food stamps allocated to California are distributed by each county.

This bill would, subject to the receipt of any necessary federal approvals, apply rules governing the resource value of motor vehicles under the CalWORKs program to the Food Stamp Program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement, including the creation of a State Mandates Claims Fund to pay the costs of mandates that do not exceed \$1,000,000 statewide and other procedures for claims whose statewide costs exceed \$1,000,000.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 11155 of the Welfare and Institutions
- 2 Code is amended to read:
- 3 11155. (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 11257,
- 4 in addition to the personal property or resources permitted by other
- 5 provisions of this part, and to the extent permitted by federal law,
- 6 an applicant or recipient for aid under this chapter, including an
- 7 applicant or recipient under Chapter 2 (commencing with Section



1 11200) may retain countable resources in an amount equal to the
2 amount permitted under federal law for qualification for food
3 stamps.

4 (b) In addition to exemptions under subdivision (a), the
5 following shall be exempt from consideration as a resource:

6 (1) The full value of one motor vehicle.

7 (2) The full value of ~~any motor vehicles used for employment,~~
8 ~~education, or training purposes.~~

9 ~~(3) Up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) in fair market value~~
10 ~~for each motor vehicle not otherwise exempt.~~ *an additional motor*
11 *vehicle when more than one adult resides in the family or*
12 *household and at least one adult reports earned income.*

13 (c) The county shall determine the value of personal property
14 and automobiles in conformance with methods established under
15 the Food Stamp Program.

16 (d) No appropriation pursuant to Section 15200 shall be made
17 for the purpose of funding the resource exemptions provided for
18 in subdivision (b).

19 SEC. 2. Section 18901.8 is added to the Welfare and
20 Institutions Code, to read:

21 18901.8. (a) For the purpose of eligibility under this chapter,
22 the rules governing the resource value of motor vehicles shall be
23 the same as those applied in the CalWORKs program, pursuant to
24 Section 11155.

25 (b) The department shall seek any federal approvals necessary
26 to implement subdivision (a).

27 (c) If any federal approvals are necessary to implement
28 subdivision (a), that subdivision shall be implemented only upon
29 the execution of a declaration by the director, which shall be
30 retained by the director, stating that any federal approvals
31 necessary to implement subdivision (a) have been obtained.

32 SEC. 3. Notwithstanding Section 17610 of the Government
33 Code, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that this
34 act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local
35 agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant
36 to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title
37 2 of the Government Code. If the statewide cost of the claim for
38 reimbursement does not exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000),



- 1 reimbursement shall be made from the State Mandates Claims
- 2 Fund.

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