

HOUSE BILL No. 2394

By Committee on Welfare Reform

2-10

1 AN ACT concerning public assistance; relating to energy assistance and
2 housing assistance; requiring the secretary for children and families to
3 develop a low income energy assistance program and the secretary for
4 aging and disability services to develop a program for unhoused
5 individuals to find and secure affordable housing; determining
6 eligibility for such programs.

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8 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

9 Section 1. (a) The secretary for children and families shall develop
10 and implement a program to expend federal moneys allocated for the
11 purpose of assisting eligible households to pay home energy costs with a
12 one-time per year benefit.

13 (b) Annually, the secretary shall accept applications for such benefit,
14 determine eligible households and administer the benefits to such
15 households.

16 (c) To receive benefits administered by the secretary pursuant to this
17 section, an eligible household shall:

18 (1) Have one adult living at the address that is personally responsible
19 for paying the heating costs incurred at the current residence, payable to
20 either the landlord or utility;

21 (2) demonstrate a recent history of payments toward the purchase of
22 the primary heating energy; and

23 (3) have a combined gross income less than or equal to 150% of the
24 federal poverty level.

25 (d) If such eligible household has an able-bodied adult aged 18
26 through 49 without dependents and is not employed at least 30 hours per
27 week, such adult shall be enrolled in an employment or training program
28 administered by the Kansas department for children and families to remain
29 eligible for such benefit.

30 (e) For the purposes of this section, "household" means the applicant
31 or recipient for all individuals living together, among whom there is a
32 relationship of legal responsibility or a qualifying caretaker relationship.
33 This includes a cohabiting significant other living with the person legally
34 responsible for a child.

35 New Sec. 2. (a) The secretary for aging and disability services shall
36 develop and implement a program to expend all federal moneys allocated

1 for the purpose of assisting individuals who are unhoused or at risk of
2 being unhoused find and secure affordable housing.

3 (b) Annually, the secretary shall accept applications for such benefit,
4 determine eligible households and administer the benefits to such
5 households.

6 (c) To receive benefits administered by the secretary pursuant to this
7 section, an eligible household shall:

8 (1) Have one adult living at the address that is personally responsible
9 for paying the housing costs; and

10 (2) have a combined gross income less than or equal to 50% of the
11 median income for the county or metropolitan area where the household
12 chooses to live.

13 (d) If such eligible household has an able-bodied adult aged 18
14 through 49 without dependents and is not employed at least 30 hours per
15 week, such adult shall be enrolled in an employment or training program
16 administered by the Kansas department for children and families to remain
17 eligible for such benefit.

18 (e) Recipients receiving similar moneys allocated for the purpose of
19 assisting individuals who are unhoused or at risk of being unhoused find
20 and secure affordable housing from a municipality or local housing
21 authority shall also be subject to the eligibility requirements in subsection
22 (c) and (d).

23 (f) For the purposes of this section, "household" means the applicant
24 or recipient for all individuals living together, among whom there is a
25 relationship of legal responsibility or a qualifying caretaker relationship.
26 This includes a cohabiting significant other living with the person legally
27 responsible for a child.

28 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
29 publication in the statute book.