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ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2121

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State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By House Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Pettigrew, Tarleton, and Macri)

READ FIRST TIME 02/24/17.

1 AN ACT Relating to income eligibility for temporary assistance  
2 for needy families benefits for a child who lives with a nonparent  
3 caregiver; amending RCW 74.12.037; creating a new section; and  
4 providing an effective date.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.12.037 and 2014 c 75 s 1 are each amended to read  
7 as follows:

8 (1) The department shall adopt rules establishing income  
9 eligibility for temporary assistance for needy families benefits for  
10 a child, other than a foster child, who lives with a caregiver other  
11 than his or her parents. The department shall establish a sliding  
12 scale benefit standard for a child when the income of the child's  
13 caregiver is above two hundred percent but below (~~three~~) four  
14 hundred percent of the federal poverty level based on family size. A  
15 caregiver with an income above (~~three~~) four hundred percent of the  
16 federal poverty level shall not be eligible for temporary assistance  
17 for needy families benefits for a child, not a foster child, who is  
18 residing with that caregiver.

19 (2)(a) For purposes of this section, the department may, by rule,  
20 exempt fifty percent of a caregiver's unearned income in determining

1 eligibility and benefit standards. This is in addition to other  
2 exemptions authorized by law.

3 (b) For purposes of this subsection, "unearned income" means  
4 income received from a source other than employment or self-  
5 employment.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** If specific funding for the purposes of  
7 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not  
8 provided by June 30, 2017, in the omnibus appropriations act, this  
9 act is null and void.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act takes effect on November 1, 2017.

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