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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-EIGHTH SESSION

H. F. No. 2211

02/25/2014 Authored by Moran and Laine

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Early Childhood and Youth Development Policy

03/13/2014 Adoption of Report: Re-referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to human services; modifying child care assistance redeterminations
1.3 of eligibility; amending Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 119B.025, by
1.4 adding a subdivision; Minnesota Statutes 2013 Supplement, section 119B.025,
1.5 subdivision 1.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2013 Supplement, section 119B.025, subdivision 1,
1.8 is amended to read:

1.9 Subdivision 1. **Factors which must be verified.** (a) The county shall verify the
1.10 following at all initial child care applications using the universal application:

1.11 (1) identity of adults;
1.12 (2) presence of the minor child in the home, if questionable;
1.13 (3) relationship of minor child to the parent, stepparent, legal guardian, eligible
1.14 relative caretaker, or the spouses of any of the foregoing;

1.15 (4) age;
1.16 (5) immigration status, if related to eligibility;
1.17 (6) Social Security number, if given;
1.18 (7) income;
1.19 (8) spousal support and child support payments made to persons outside the
1.20 household;
1.21 (9) residence; and
1.22 (10) inconsistent information, if related to eligibility.

1.23 ~~(b) If a family did not use the universal application or child care addendum to apply~~
1.24 ~~for child care assistance, the family must complete the universal application or child care~~
1.25 ~~addendum at its next eligibility redetermination and the county must verify the factors~~

listed in paragraph (a) as part of that redetermination. Once a family has completed a universal application or child care addendum, the county shall use the redetermination form described in paragraph (c) for that family's subsequent redeterminations. Eligibility must be redetermined at least every six months. A family is considered to have met the eligibility redetermination requirement if a complete redetermination form and all required verifications are received within 30 days after the date the form was due. Assistance shall be payable retroactively from the redetermination due date. For a family where at least one parent is under the age of 21, does not have a high school or general equivalency diploma, and is a student in a school district or another similar program that provides or arranges for child care, as well as parenting, social services, career and employment supports, and academic support to achieve high school graduation, the redetermination of eligibility shall be deferred beyond six months, but not to exceed 12 months, to the end of the student's school year. If a family reports a change in an eligibility factor before the family's next regularly scheduled redetermination, the county must recalculate eligibility without requiring verification of any eligibility factor that did not change.

(e) (b) The commissioner shall develop a redetermination form to redetermine eligibility and a change report form to report changes that minimize paperwork for the county and the participant.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 119B.025, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3. Redeterminations. (a) If a family did not use the universal application or child care addendum to apply for child care assistance, the family must complete the universal application or child care addendum at its next eligibility redetermination, and the county must verify the factors listed in subdivision 1, paragraph (a), as part of that redetermination. Once a family has completed a universal application or child care addendum, the county shall use the redetermination form described in subdivision 1, paragraph (b), for that family's subsequent redeterminations.

(b) Eligibility must be redetermined at least every 12 months. A family is considered to have met the eligibility redetermination requirement if a complete redetermination form and all required verifications are received within 30 days after the date the form was due. Assistance shall be payable retroactively from the redetermination due date.

(c) For families who are transitioned from the MFIP child care program, transition year child care program, or transition year extension child care program under this chapter to the basic sliding fee child care program, eligibility shall be redetermined within 12 months of the date the basic sliding fee case is opened.

3.1 (d) If a family reports a change in an eligibility factor before the family's next
3.2 regularly scheduled redetermination, the county must recalculate eligibility without
3.3 requiring verification of any eligibility factor that did not change. When there is a change
3.4 in an eligibility factor reported by the participant at application or at the most recent
3.5 redetermination of eligibility, the participant must report the new information to the
3.6 county within ten calendar days after the change occurs. This reporting requirement
3.7 applies to changes in income, residence, employment status, education or training status,
3.8 family status, or family size.

3.9 (e) Parental fees under section 119B.12 shall be reviewed upon a reported change or
3.10 at the time of redetermination. If redetermination establishes the need for a change in the
3.11 parental fee, the parental fee must be based on an average of the gross income for at least the
3.12 past three months, or a best estimate of anticipated income in the event of new employment
3.13 or a change in regular monthly income. Notwithstanding section 119B.12, subdivision 1,
3.14 when a change in income affects the amount of the parental fee, the new parental fee is
3.15 effective on the first day of the service period following a 15-day notice period.