

STATE OF NEW YORK

1308

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 9, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. MEEKS, SIMONE, EPSTEIN, HYNDMAN -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. DAVILA -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the state finance law, in relation to providing funding for the universal basic income pilot program; establishing the universal basic income pilot program; making an appropriation therefor; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

- 1 Section 1. Universal basic income pilot program. 1. Notwithstanding
2 any law, rule or regulation to the contrary, the state comptroller, no
3 later than January 1, 2027, shall establish and implement a two year
4 pilot program to demonstrate the economic impacts and state-level cost
5 savings of a universal basic income.
- 6 2. The pilot program shall include 10,000 participants randomly chosen
7 from applicants from across the state. Participants shall agree to fully
8 participate in the study and analysis of the universal basic income
9 pilot program. Participants in the program shall receive \$7,200 per year
10 for individuals and \$14,400 per year for couples. Universal basic income
11 received by participants shall not be included in determining eligibil-
12 ity for the supplemental nutrition assistance program or temporary
13 assistance for needy families.
- 14 3. The comptroller shall establish eligibility criteria and a
15 selection process, including but not limited to the following:
- 16 (a) participants shall be within the ages of 21 and 65 years old;
17 (b) participants may receive social services from programs such as the
18 supplemental nutrition assistance program or temporary assistance for
19 needy families;
20 (c) participants shall have verifiable employment on a part-time or
21 full-time basis; and

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 (d) each participant shall have an annual income of \$35,600 per year
2 or less.

3 4. Not later than one year after the conclusion of the pilot program,
4 the comptroller shall compile a report, in cooperation with the depart-
5 ment of health, department of labor and New York city department of
6 health and mental hygiene, to the division of budget which shall
7 include, but not be limited to, the following:

8 (a) information from the department of health and New York city
9 department of health and mental hygiene on the effects of universal
10 basic income on the health, stress levels and mental health of partic-
11 ipants;

12 (b) information from the department of labor assessing the number of
13 individuals seeking employment in order to qualify for universal basic
14 income;

15 (c) socio-demographic information, including but not limited to the
16 age, race, ethnicity, education level, family composition, community of
17 residence, housing costs, additional income, and government benefits
18 received, of each participant and their family;

19 (d) data on how individuals allocated the funds they received;

20 (e) analysis of cost benefit and cost savings extrapolated from the
21 pilot to a true universal basic income scheme;

22 (f) recommendations on implementing a statewide universal basic income
23 program, including monthly payment amounts, that will maximize cost
24 savings and public benefits; and

25 (g) draft legislation to implement the recommended statewide universal
26 basic income program.

27 § 2. Subdivision 7 of section 92-b of the state finance law, as added
28 by section 10 of part SS-1 of chapter 57 of the laws of 2008, is amended
29 to read as follows:

30 7. When all the notes and bonds of the municipal assistance corpo-
31 ration for the city of New York have been fully paid and discharged,
32 together with interest thereon and interest on unpaid installments of
33 interest, and the [~~chairman~~ chair] of the corporation makes the final
34 certification required by subdivision seven of section ninety-two-d of
35 this article, the comptroller must notify the commissioner of taxation
36 and finance that all remaining funds held in the stock transfer tax fund
37 must be released to the stock transfer incentive fund. From that time
38 forward, all funds previously deposited in the stock transfer tax fund
39 pursuant to subdivision two of this section will be deposited directly
40 into the stock transfer incentive fund pursuant to all the rules, regu-
41 lations or instructions that the commissioner may prescribe, after
42 deducting the amount the commissioner determines to be necessary for
43 reasonable costs of the department in administering, collecting and
44 distributing the tax imposed by article twelve of the tax law, and
45 beginning January first, two thousand twenty-seven, after deducting the
46 amount the comptroller determines is necessary to fund the universal
47 basic income pilot program established pursuant to a chapter of the laws
48 of two thousand twenty-five. Notwithstanding any other provisions of
49 this article, to the extent those moneys are not required by the stock
50 transfer incentive fund for the purpose of administering and making
51 distributions in accordance with the provisions of section two hundred
52 eighty-a of the tax law, as certified by the commissioner of taxation
53 and finance, the balance will be appropriated to the city of New York
54 for the support of local government.

55 § 3. The sum of two hundred eighty-eight million (\$288,000,000), or so
56 much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to the state

1 comptroller, fifty percent out of any moneys in the state treasury in
2 the general fund to the credit of the universal basic income pilot
3 program, not otherwise appropriated, and fifty percent out of the moneys
4 in the stock transfer tax fund to the credit of the universal basic
5 income pilot program, and made immediately available, for the purpose of
6 carrying out the provisions of this act. Such moneys shall be payable on
7 the audit and warrant of the comptroller on vouchers certified or
8 approved by the comptroller in the manner prescribed by law.
9 § 4. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be
10 deemed repealed five years after such date.