STATE OF NEW YORK

7291

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

April 8, 2025

Introduced by Sens. BRISPORT, COONEY, SALAZAR -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Children and Families

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to establishing the universal basic income for transition-age youth pilot program; 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:

Section 1. The social services law is amended by adding a new section 398-f to read as follows:

§ 398-f. Universal basic income for transition-age youth pilot program. 1. Subject to an appropriation by the legislature for this purpose, the department shall administer the universal basic income for transition-age youth pilot program with the goal of improving outcomes for foster youth. The pilot program shall commence on January first, two thousand twenty-six, and end on December thirty-first, two thousand twenty-nine. Under the pilot program, a New York state resident who ages out of foster care during the year two thousand twenty-six, regardless of what age such child entered foster care, shall be eligible for the program and shall receive a universal basic income of one thousand dollars per month for three years.

2. For purposes of this section, "universal basic income" means unconditional cash payments of equal amounts issued monthly to eligible individuals with the intention of ensuring the economic security of recipients. To the extent authorized under federal law, the universal basic income provided by this program shall not be considered income or resources for purposes of determining eligibility to receive benefits or the amount of those benefits under the following public social services, programs, and financial aid:

(a) New York earned income tax credit;

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

LBD05930-01-5

(b) Medicaid, medicare or other health insurance programs which receive federal or state support and factor in income for eligibility purposes;

(c) State and federal financial aid and college support programs, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(i) Grants from the state university of New York or city university of New York;

(ii) Benefits provided to veterans of the armed forces of the United States pursuant to Title 38 of the United States Code; and

(iii) Pell Grants (Subpart 1 (commencing with Section 1070a) of Title 20 of the United States Code).

3. (a) The department shall work with at least one independent, research-based institution to identify existing, and establish additional, outcome measurements. The department shall prepare and submit an annual report to the governor and the legislature on the universal basic income for transition-age youth pilot program. Such report shall include information on outcomes for the foster youth served under the program, models utilized, and measures specific to the objectives of the program.

(b) Notwithstanding any other law, the department may accept and expend funds from nongovernment sources for the report, for a longitudinal study of the universal basic income for transition-age youth pilot program that is in addition to the report, or for both. The report shall include, but not be limited to, the following information, with respect to the period of evaluation:

(i) Starting income of the participant before receiving monthly universal basic income payments under the universal basic income for transition-age youth pilot program;

(ii) Geographic indicators, including county of residence, city, and ZIP Code;

(iii) Employment status of the participant before receiving monthly universal basic income payments;

(iv) Housing status of the participant before receiving monthly universal basic income payments; and

(v) Additional descriptive and outcome indicators, as appropriate.

§ 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2026 and shall expire and be deemed repealed January 1, 2031. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective date.