
SENATE BILL 5652

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senators Gaspard, McDonald, Smith, Quigley, Wojahn, Hargrove, Heavey, Winsley, Sheldon, Fraser, Loveland, Fairley, Oke, McAuliffe, Spanel, Kohl, Franklin, Drew, Haugen, Owen, Bauer, Snyder, Deccio and Rasmussen

Read first time 01/30/95. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to welfare fraud; amending RCW 74.08.290; and
2 creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Welfare fraud damages the state's ability to
5 use its limited resources to help those who legitimately qualify for
6 assistance. In addition, it affects the credibility and integrity of
7 the system, promoting disdain for the law.

8 Persons convicted of committing such fraud should be barred, for a
9 period of time, from receiving additional public assistance.

10 **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.08.290 and 1959 c 26 s 74.08.290 are each amended
11 to read as follows:

12 The department is hereby authorized to suspend temporarily the
13 public assistance granted to any person for any period during which
14 such person is not in need thereof.

15 If a recipient is convicted of any crime or offense, and punished
16 by imprisonment, no payment shall be made during the period of
17 imprisonment.

1 If a recipient is convicted of unlawful practices under RCW
2 74.08.331, no payment shall be made for a period to be determined by
3 the court, but in no event less than six months. This suspension of
4 public assistance shall apply regardless of whether the recipient is
5 subject to complete or partial confinement upon conviction, or incurs
6 some lesser penalty.

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