DIGEST

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HB 364 Original

2018 Regular Session

Jackson

Abstract: Establishes a workforce training pilot initiative to serve public assistance recipients in certain parishes.

Proposed law defines "public assistance", for purposes of proposed law, as any of the following:

- (1) Cash benefits of the Family Independence Temporary Assistance Program administered by the Department of Children and Family Services.
- (2) Cash benefits of the Kinship Care Subsidy Program administered by the Department of Children and Family Services.
- (3) Nutrition assistance benefits of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program administered by the Department of Children and Family Services.
- (4) Medical assistance pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act through the program commonly known as Medicaid administered by the La. Department of Health.
- (5) Child care assistance through the Child Care Assistance Program administered by the La. Department of Education.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires the secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services, the secretary of the La. Department of Health, and the state superintendent of education to collaborate to design and implement a workforce training and education pilot initiative in accordance with <u>proposed law</u> for public assistance recipients for the purpose of improving employment opportunities for those persons.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires the departments to establish the pilot initiative to operate and serve participants in the following parishes:

- (1) A parish with a population of more than 27,000 and less than 30,000 according to the latest federal decennial census.
- (2) A parish with a population of more than 140,000 and less than 160,000 according to the latest federal decennial census.

Proposed law stipulates that the pilot initiative shall serve not more than 100 participants per parish

in which it operates, and that participation shall be strictly voluntary.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that the work supports and workforce education services that the pilot initiative features may include, without limitation, any of the following:

- (1) Job referral services.
- (2) Job support services.
- (3) Career planning.
- (4) Job training.
- (5) Workforce readiness.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires annual reports providing a summary and evaluation of the pilot initiative's outcomes to the legislative committees on health and welfare.

(Adds R.S. 46:351-355)