
HOUSE BILL 2000

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Representative Hunter

1 AN ACT Relating to the state food assistance program; amending RCW
2 74.08A.120; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.08A.120 and 1999 c 120 s 4 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The department may establish a food assistance program for
7 legal immigrants who are ineligible for the federal food stamp program.

8 (2) The department shall adopt rules for the state food assistance
9 program (~~shall follow exactly the rules of the federal food stamp~~
10 ~~program except for the provisions pertaining to immigrant status~~) to
11 operate the program within appropriations provided for the program in
12 the omnibus operating appropriations act and subject to any terms and
13 conditions in that act.

14 (3) The benefit under the state food assistance program shall be
15 established by the legislature in the biennial operating budget.

16 (4) The department may enter into a contract with the United States
17 department of agriculture to use the existing federal food stamp
18 program coupon system for the purposes of administering the state food
19 assistance program.

1 (5) In the event the department is unable to enter into a contract
2 with the United States department of agriculture, the department may
3 issue vouchers to eligible households for the purchase of eligible
4 foods at participating retailers.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate
6 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
7 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
8 immediately.

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