

SENATE BILL No. 85

By Committee on Government Efficiency

1-28

1 AN ACT concerning public assistance; relating to the secretary for
2 children and families; directing the secretary to enter into agreements
3 with state agencies for the continuous review and comparison of data
4 for public assistance eligibility; requiring the secretary to review
5 federal sources to verify such eligibility.
6

7 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

8 Section 1. (a) To verify eligibility for the food assistance program
9 pursuant to K.S.A. 39-709, and amendments thereto, the secretary for
10 children and families shall enter into data-matching agreements with state
11 agencies to compare data related to households enrolled in food assistance
12 and other state data sets. The secretary shall receive and review
13 information concerning individuals or households enrolled in food
14 assistance that indicates a change in circumstances that may affect
15 eligibility for the program on at least a:

16 (1) Monthly basis, from the office of vital statistics, including, but not
17 limited to, death records;

18 (2) quarterly basis, from the department of labor, including, but not
19 limited to, changes in employment or wages;

20 (3) monthly basis, including, but not limited to, potential changes in
21 residency as identified by out-of-state electronic benefit transfer
22 transactions;

23 (4) quarterly basis, from the department of revenue, including, but not
24 limited to, potential changes in income, wages or residency as identified
25 by tax records;

26 (5) monthly basis, from the department of corrections, including, but
27 not limited to, incarceration status;

28 (6) semi-monthly basis, from the department of labor, including, but
29 not limited to, potential changes in employment, income or assets; and

30 (7) monthly basis, from the Kansas lottery and the Kansas racing and
31 gaming commission, to identify households with lottery or gambling
32 winnings of \$3,000 or greater and, to the extent permissible under federal
33 law, deem this data verified upon receipt, and if the data is not verified
34 upon receipt, the department shall make referrals for further investigation
35 to identify households with winnings equal to or greater than the resource
36 limit for elderly or disabled households as defined in 7 C.F.R. § 273.8(b).

1 (b) On at least a monthly basis, to assess continued eligibility and act
2 on findings, the secretary for children and families shall review and act on
3 the following data from federal sources:

4 (1) Earned income information, death records, incarceration records,
5 supplemental security income information, beneficiary records, earnings
6 information and pension information maintained by the United States
7 social security administration;

8 (2) income and employment information maintained in the national
9 directory of new hires and child support enforcement data maintained by
10 the United States department of health and human services;

11 (3) payment and earnings information maintained by the United
12 States department of housing and urban development; and

13 (4) fleeing felon information maintained by the United States federal
14 bureau of investigation.

15 (c) On at least a quarterly basis, the secretary shall make available to
16 the public on the Kansas department for children and families' website data
17 from findings of noncompliance and fraud investigations in food
18 assistance for the following aggregate, nonconfidential and non-personally
19 identifying information:

20 (1) Number of households investigated for intentional program
21 violations or fraud;

22 (2) total number of households referred to the attorney general's
23 office for prosecution;

24 (3) improper payments and expenditures;

25 (4) moneys recovered;

26 (5) data concerning improper payments and ineligible recipients as a
27 percentage of those investigated and reviewed; and

28 (6) amount of funds expended by electronic benefit card transactions
29 in each state outside of Kansas.

30 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
31 publication in the statute book.