

2015 -- H 6261

LC002731

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

A N A C T

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

Introduced By: Representatives Lima, Corvese, Messier, Morin, and Azzinaro

Date Introduced: May 28, 2015

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 40-6 of the General Laws entitled "Public Assistance Act" is
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **40-6-8.1. Ineligibility for and suspension of aid or assistance upon commitment to**
4 **adult correctional institutions.** – (a) Any person convicted of a criminal offense and sentenced
5 to a term of imprisonment, upon commencement of his or her sentence, shall not be eligible for,
6 or continue to receive, benefits under the supplemental nutritional assistance program (SNAP) as
7 provided in § 40-6-8.

8 (b) The Rhode Island department of corrections (RIDOC) shall, on the first day of each
9 month, forward the department of human services, the name, date of birth, and social security
10 number of each person who has commenced a term of imprisonment within the previous month.

11 (c) The department of human services shall, on the first day of each month, request the
12 name, date of birth, and social security number from the United States attorney's office for the
13 district of Rhode Island of each Rhode Island resident who has been sentenced to and begun a
14 term of imprisonment for any federal offense.

15 (d) A term of imprisonment shall not include any period of time in which a person is held
16 pending trial, awaiting trial, or held due to the person's inability to secure release by posting bail
17 or surety with the court.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

1 This act would provide that any person convicted of a criminal offense and sentenced to a
2 term of imprisonment, upon commencement of his or her sentence, shall not be eligible for, or
3 continue to receive, benefits under the supplemental nutritional assistance program. A term of
4 imprisonment would not include any period of time in which a person is held awaiting trial or due
5 to a person's inability to secure release by posting bail or surety with the court.

6 This act would take effect upon passage.

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