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Public Assistance Benefits. Eligibility. Initiative Statute.

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October 1, 2013

California Attorney General Kamala Harris
Attn: Ashley Johansson, Initiative Coordinator
1300 I Street, 17th Floor, Post Office Box 944255
Sacramento, California 94244-2550

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OCT 11 2013

INITIATIVE COORDINATOR
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

This is the written request for preparation of title and summary of the chief purposes and points of the proposed initiative measure, known as the California Welfare Reform Act of 2014. This text of the initiative is attached.

The public contact address: POB 9985, San Diego, CA 92169

Thank you,

Ted Hilton

Ted Hilton

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS
FOLLOWS:**

SECTION 1. This act shall be known, and may be cited, as the California Welfare Reform Act of 2014.

SEC. 2. Section 10005 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

10005. (a) Notwithstanding any other law and to the extent not prohibited by federal law, an applicant for public social services shall provide the county welfare department with either of the following:

(1) For an individual applying for benefits on his or her own behalf, a valid California driver's license or California state-issued identification card.

(2) For an individual applying for benefits on behalf of a minor child, a certified copy of the child's United States certificate of birth, or other official proof of birth document, and the child's social security card.

(b) The county welfare department shall maintain on file the names and identifying information for all applicants, and shall scan and maintain on file copies of each driver's license, identification card, certificate of birth or other official birth document, and social security card presented pursuant to this section. The county welfare department also shall maintain on file the names of any parents, known to the applicant, who are not included in the application; the number of months a recipient has received benefits; and the number of months the recipient has been employed while receiving benefits. This information shall be included in a statewide database established by the State Department of Social Services, which shall verify, on at least a monthly basis, that no duplicate documentation has been submitted by another applicant or recipient.

(c) The county welfare department shall provide an applicant who demonstrates that he or she is unable to afford the required fee to obtain a driver's license or identification card, including the reduced fee provided for an identification card established pursuant to Section 14902 of the Vehicle Code, with a completed form DL 937, or its successor document, along with the appropriate fee, payable to the Department of Motor Vehicles. The amount of the reduced

identification card fee shall be deducted from the applicant's first benefit payment.

SEC. 3. Section 11322.88 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

11322.88. (a) (1) Notwithstanding any other law and to the extent not prohibited by federal law, the department shall develop and implement a job placement program, as provided in this section, to identify and facilitate employment opportunities for recipients who are required to participate in welfare-to-work activities under this chapter.

(2) The program shall include an employer outreach component to identify potential public and private employers, as well as appropriate training for county social workers and other personnel.

(3) The program shall include documentation, which shall be provided to the participant and completed by the potential employer following the participant's interview, stating that no job was offered, a job was offered and accepted, or a job was offered and refused, as appropriate. The potential employer shall submit the completed documentation to the department or the county welfare department.

(b) Commencing on the date an adult applicant is determined eligible for aid under this chapter or on the date an adult recipient is recertified for aid under this chapter, in lieu of the welfare-to-work activities otherwise provided for in this article, he or she shall be required, as a condition of initial or continued receipt of aid, to cooperate with the county welfare department to obtain employment that meets or exceeds the minimum required hours pursuant to Section 11322.8. Failure to accept, without good cause, a job offer that meets or exceeds the required hours pursuant to Section 11322.8 shall be deemed a failure to cooperate with the county welfare department under this subdivision.

(c) Pursuant to the program established pursuant to subdivision (a), the county welfare department shall actively attempt to locate employment in the community for qualified recipients, and shall assist each of these individuals for two years in seeking available positions in vocations, including, but not limited to all of the following:

- (1) Agriculture.**
- (2) Construction.**
- (3) Food Service.**
- (4) Gardening and landscaping.**
- (5) Garment industry.**
- (6) Hospitality.**
- (7) Housekeeping.**
- (8) Janitorial services.**
- (9) Public works or other appropriate public employment.**

(d) (1) The recipient shall be required to seek employment in cooperation with the county welfare for two consecutive years. If the recipient has not procured employment by the end of the third month, he or she shall be required to also participate in the welfare-to-work activities otherwise required by this article, or be subject to sanction pursuant to Section 11327.5.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, application and placement assistance for employment pursuant to paragraph (9) of subdivision (c) shall not be limited to the recipient's first two years of benefits, but also shall be provided throughout the entire period during which an individual is receiving cash assistance under this chapter.

(e) The department, in coordination with the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, may develop procedures to determine if an inmate, upon his or her release from prison, would be eligible for benefits under this chapter and required to participate in the program under this section.

(f) (1) Notwithstanding the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code) the State Department of Social Services may implement and administer this section through all-county letters or similar instructions from the department until regulations are adopted. The department shall adopt emergency regulations implementing this section no later than 12 months following the initial effective date of the employment program established

pursuant to subdivision (a). The department may readopt any emergency regulation authorized by this section that is the same as or substantially equivalent to an emergency regulation previously adopted under this section.

(2) The initial adoption of emergency regulations implementing this section and the one readoption of emergency regulations authorized by this subdivision shall be deemed an emergency and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, or general welfare. Initial emergency regulations and the readoption of emergency regulations authorized by this section shall be exempt from review and approval by the Office of Administrative Law. The initial emergency regulations and the readoption of emergency regulations authorized by this section shall be submitted to the Office of Administrative Law for filing with the Secretary of State and each shall remain in effect for no more than 180 days, by which time final regulations may be adopted.

SEC. 4 (a) The provisions of this act are severable. If any provision of this act or its application are held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application.