

Legislative Analysis



ELIMINATE ASSET TEST FOR FOOD ASSISTANCE

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

Senate Bill 35 as passed by the Senate

Sponsor: Sen. Jeff Irwin

House Committee: Economic Development and Small Business

Senate Committee: Housing and Human Services

Complete to 5-8-23

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 35 would amend the Social Welfare Act to remove the requirement that the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) apply an asset test to determine an individual's financial eligibility for the Food Assistance Program (FAP). Currently, eligibility for the program is determined by the income, assets, and expenses of all members of a household, and applicants with over \$15,000 in assets do not qualify.¹

The bill would go into effect 90 days after enactment.

MCL 400.10d

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would likely have no fiscal impact. Currently, eligibility determinations are driven by the income-based assessment, and the elimination of the asset test would likely only have a nominal impact.

Legislative Analyst: Holly Kuhn
Fiscal Analyst: Kent Dell

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

¹ Current FAP eligibility criteria can be found here: <https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/assistance-programs/food/eligibility>.