

OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

Date: April 9, 2021
To: Joint Standing Committee on Health & Human Services
From: Erin Dooling, Esq., Legislative Analyst

LD 78 An Act To Protect Children from Extreme Poverty by Preserving Children's Access to Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Benefits

SUMMARY: Under current law, DHHS terminates assistance under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program to the entire family, including children, if the children's parent fails to comply with requirements of the family contract for a period of 90 days or for any subsequent failure. This bill amends that provision to terminate benefits for the noncomplying parent but continues to provide assistance to the children and complying parent. Under this bill, the benefits to the family would be reduced by terminating benefits that apply to the noncomplying adult.

FISCAL IMPACT: Preliminary fiscal impact statement shows \$753,666 in FY 22-23. It assumes an implementation date of January 1, 2023 in order to allow time for technological changes and rulemaking.