

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1911

By: Representative Bryant

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW REGARDING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE;
TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND THE
DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SERVICES TO PARTICIPATE IN A
PILOT PROGRAM RELATED TO REAL-TIME EMPLOYMENT AND
INCOME DATA; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW REGARDING PUBLIC
ASSISTANCE; AND TO AUTHORIZE A PILOT
PROGRAM RELATED TO REAL-TIME EMPLOYMENT
AND INCOME DATA FOR CERTAIN PUBLIC
ASSISTANCE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 76, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

20-76-118. Pilot program for real-time employment and income data.

(a) As used in the section:

(1) "Consumer reporting agency" means an agency as defined by the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq., as it existed on January 1, 2021;

(2) "Payroll data provider" means payroll providers, verification companies, and other commercial or noncommercial entities that collect and maintain data regarding employment and income; and

(3) "Real-time employment and income data" means up-to-date, nonmodeled employment and income data provided by employers.



(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of any law or regulation to the contrary, in order to improve the timeliness of benefit deliveries, operational efficiencies, and cost savings and to minimize fraud, the Department of Human Services and the Division of Workforce Services may participate in a no-cost pilot program in which real-time employment and income data is obtained from a payroll data provider that is a consumer reporting agency for the purpose of assisting with the determination of an individual's eligibility to receive the following benefits:

- (1) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program;
- (2) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; and
- (3) Unemployment.

(c) The real-time employment and income data obtained under subsection (b) of this section may also be used to conduct an analysis on the pilot program.

(d) Should the pilot program successfully demonstrate cost savings, the department and the division may incorporate the real-time employment and income data into the eligibility verification determination processes.