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H.355

Introduced by Representatives Koch of Barre Town, Haas of Rochester, and  
McFaun of Barre Town

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Human services; public assistance; eligibility

Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to ensure rational and appropriate  
income eligibility rules for public assistance programs.

An act relating to benefit cliffs in public assistance programs

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 33 V.S.A. § 102(b) is amended to read:

(b) The laws relating to the programs of the department for children and families shall be construed liberally to carry out the policies stated in this chapter. To the extent allowed under federal law, the department shall establish by rule a mechanism for individuals who are over the applicable income eligibility limit for a program administered through the agency of human services to reduce their countable income by paying a premium or enrollment fee to the department, or other applicable department or office, in the amount necessary to reduce their countable income in order to become eligible for the program.