Exhibit No. 1
Date 4-25-09
Bill No. FC HB645

Amendments to House Bill No. 645
Reference Copy

Requested by Senator Jim Keane

For the House Free Conference Committee

Prepared by Greg Petesch
April 21, 2009 (1:06pm)

1. Title, line 12.
Following: "ACCOUNT;"
Insert: "INCREASING THE ELIGIBILITY FOR CASH ASSISTANCE BENEFITS FROM THE TANF BLOCK GRANT;"

2. Title, line 21.
Following: "~~53-4-1115,~~"
Insert: "53-4-212,"

3. Page 3, line 20.
Strike: "43"
Insert: "44"
Strike: "44"
Insert: "45"

4. Page 3, line 21.
Strike: "45"
Insert: "46"

5. Page 4, line 13.
Strike: "43"
Insert: "44"

6. Page 4, line 14.
Strike: "44"
Insert: "45"
Strike: "45"
Insert: "46"

7. Page 4, line 19.
Strike: "43"
Insert: "44"
Strike: "44"
Insert: "45"

8. Page 4, line 20.
Strike: "45"
Insert: "46"

9. Page 5, line 11.

Strike: "43"
Insert: "44"

10. Page 5, line 12.
Strike: "44"
Insert: "45"
Strike: "45"
Insert: "46"

11. Page 6, line 16.
Strike: "43"
Insert: "44"

12. Page 6, line 17.
Strike: "44"
Insert: "45"
Strike: "45"
Insert: "46"

13. Page 7, line 11.
Strike: "43"
Insert: "44"

14. Page 7, line 12.
Strike: "44"
Insert: "45"
Strike: "45"
Insert: "46"

15. Page 8, line 8.
Strike: "43"
Insert: "44"

16. Page 8, line 9.
Strike: "44"
Insert: "45"
Strike: "45"
Insert: "46"

17. Page 8, line 21.
Strike: "43"
Insert: "44"

18. Page 9, line 1.
Strike: "44"
Insert: "45"
Strike: "45"
Insert: "46"

19. Page 11, line 9.

Strike: "43"
Insert: "44"

20. Page 11, line 9.
Strike: "43"
Insert: "44"

21. Page 12, line 4.
Strike: "43"
Insert: "44"

22. Page 13, line 1.
Strike: "43"
Insert: "44"

23. Page 13, line 18.
Strike: "43"
Insert: "44"

24. Page 14, line 18.
Strike: "81"
Insert: "82"

25. Page 15, line 15.
Strike: "81"
Insert: "82"

26. Page 20, line 2.
Strike: "52"
Insert: "53"

27. Page 21, line 6.
Strike: "42(1)"
Insert: "43(1)"

28. Page 21, line 7.
Strike: "43"
Insert: "44"

29. Page 21, line 12.
Strike: "42(1)"
Insert: "43(1)"
Strike: "43"
Insert: "44"

30. Page 24, line 14.
Strike: "81"
Insert: "82"

31. Page 24, line 17.

Strike: "81"
Insert: "82"

32. Page 27, line 16.
Strike: "43"
Insert: "44"

33. Page 34.
Following: line 10
Insert: "Section 32. Section 53-4-212, MCA, is amended to read:

"53-4-212. Department to make rules. (1) The department shall make rules and take action as necessary or desirable for the administration of public assistance programs.

(2) ~~The~~ Subject to subsection (3), the department shall adopt rules that may include but are not limited to rules concerning:

(a) eligibility requirements, including gross and net income limitations, resource limitations, and income and resource exclusions;

(b) amounts of assistance, methods for computing benefit amounts, and the length of time for which benefits may be granted;

(c) the degree of kinship required for a person to qualify as a specified caretaker relative in order to be eligible for assistance;

(d) procedures and policies for employment and training programs, requirements for participation in employment and training programs, and exemptions, if any, from participation requirements;

(e) requirements for specified caretaker relatives, including cooperation with assessments, the number of hours of participation required for each month, specific activities required to address employment barriers, and other terms of performance;

(f) eligibility for and terms and conditions of child-care assistance for financial assistance recipients, including maximum amounts of assistance payable and amounts of copayments required by specified caretaker relatives;

(g) eligibility criteria and participation requirements for nonfinancial assistance recipients;

(h) terms of ineligibility or sanctions against a specified caretaker relative or other family member who fails to enter into a family investment agreement, as provided for in 53-4-606, or to comply with the individual's obligations under the agreement, including the length of the period of ineligibility, if any;

(i) requirements, if any, for participation in the employment and training demonstration project;

(j) eligibility for and terms and conditions of extended medical assistance benefits;

(k) reporting requirements;

(l) sanctions, disqualification, or other penalties for failure or refusal to comply with the rules or requirements of a public assistance program;

(m) exemptions from the 60-month limitation on assistance provided in 53-4-231 based on hardship or for families that include an individual who has been battered or subjected to extreme cruelty, as defined in section 103 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, 42 U.S.C. 608, including but not limited to the duration of the exemption;

(n) individuals who must be included as members of an assistance unit;

(o) categories of aliens who may receive assistance, if any;

(p) requirements relating to the assignment of child and medical support rights and cooperation in establishing paternity and obtaining child and medical support;

(q) requirements for eligibility and other terms and conditions of other programs to strengthen and preserve families;

(r) special eligibility or participation requirements applicable to teenage parents, if any;

(s) conditions under which assistance may be continued when an adult or a dependent child is temporarily absent from the home and the length of time for which assistance may be continued;

(t) any random drug testing or reporting requirements for persons who are required to comply with the conditions provided under 53-4-231(3) and graduated sanctions that may include terms of ineligibility for violations of conditions of supervision or treatment requirements. The department may enter into agreements with the department of corrections regarding testing and reporting on offenders under the supervision of the department of corrections.

(u) approved educational programs, appropriate educational courses of study, employee assessment instruments, and administration of the Montana parents as scholars program provided for in 53-4-209.

(3) The department shall raise the eligibility standard for individuals receiving cash assistance benefits from the federal TANF block grant from at or below 30% of the 2002 federal poverty level to at or below 30% of the 2009 federal poverty level for the period from July 1, 2009, through September 30, 2010. Beginning October 1, 2010, the department shall reduce the eligibility standard to 30% of the 2006 federal poverty level. If the TANF caseload increases to a point that expenditures jeopardize the TANF block grant, the department, after consultation with the legislative finance committee, may lower the eligibility standard as provided in subsection (2)."

{*Internal References to 53-4-212: None.*}"

Renumber: subsequent sections

34. Page 44, line 18.
Strike: "42"
Insert: "43"

35. Page 45, line 1.
Strike: "43"
Insert: "44"

36. Page 45, line 19.
Strike: "43"
Insert: "44"

37. Page 48, line 19.
Strike: "43"
Insert: "44"

38. Page 48, line 20.
Strike: "44"
Insert: "45"
Strike: "45"
Insert: "46"

39. Page 63, line 8.
Strike: "81"
Insert: "82"

40. Page 65, line 2.
Strike: "81"
Insert: "82"

41. Page 65, line 5.
Strike: "81"
Insert: "82"

42. Page 66, line 14.
Strike: "59"
Insert: "60"

43. Page 71, line 2.
Strike: "81"
Insert: "82"

44. Page 72, line 1.
Strike: "81"
Insert: "82"

45. Page 72, line 17.
Strike: "81"
Insert: "82"

46. Page 73, line 5.
Strike: "81"
Insert: "82"

47. Page 73, line 12.
Strike: "81"
Insert: "82"

48. Page 73, line 19.
Strike: "81"
Insert: "82"

49. Page 74, line 2.
Strike: "33"
Insert: "34"

50. Page 74, line 3.
Strike: "33"
Insert: "34"

51. Page 74, line 4.
Strike: "52" in both places
Insert: "53" in both places

52. Page 74, line 5.
Strike: "54"
Insert: "55"
Strike: "55"
Insert: "56"

53. Page 74, line 6.
Strike: "54"
Insert: "55"
Strike: "55"
Insert: "56"

54. Page 74, line 9.
Strike: "44"
Insert: "45"
Strike: "45"
Insert: "46"

55. Page 74, line 10.
Strike: "44"
Insert: "45"
Strike: "45"
Insert: "46"

56. Page 74, line 11.

Strike: "50" in both places
Insert: "51" in both places
Strike: "51" in both places
Insert: "52" in both places

57. Page 74, line 20.
Strike: "35"
Insert: "36"
Strike: "37"
Insert: "38"

58. Page 75, lines 2 and 3.
Following: "31" on line 2
Strike: remainder of line 2 through "60" on line 3
Insert: "through 33, 35 through 42, 57, 58, 60, and 61"

59. Page 75, line 5.
Strike: "81"
Insert: "82"

60. Page A-9, line 11.
Strike: "56"
Insert: "57"
Strike: "57"
Insert: "58"

- END -