

TANF Legislation and Budget Priorities 2023

Increase Equity

- **Make permanent TANF hardship Time Limit Extensions** for all households and **eliminate time limits for Child-only cases** [\$26M]

Improve TANF for all recipients

- **Introduce Stabilization Waivers** for families by waiving WorkFirst requirements during times of hardship [No additional cost estimated]
- **Expand earned income disregard** for recipients of cash programs to smooth the cliff effect by disregarding 6 months of earned income (up to 200% FPL) [\$42M]
- **Expand the existing \$50/\$100 child support pass-through** for TANF parents to 100% of Current Support. [\$16M]
- **Update Cash Grants to align with the Need Standard and inflation** by paying 15% of new Needs Standard, updated yearly [\$69M, including one-time IT cost]
- **Expand asset limits and exemptions for cash assistance programs** [\$200,000]

Budget Asks

- **Support equitable access to DSHS services and prevent ongoing racialized harm** by reallocating ~25 FTEs away from the Office of Fraud and Accountability and strategically reinvesting them in supporting access through improved intake and eligibility [No additional cost estimated]
- **Allocate funding to Community Based Organizations** to inform TANF recipients more equitably about the services available to them. [\$5M]

All costs are estimated 2023-2025 costs.