

1 **Senate Bill No. 661**

2 (By Senators Walters and Stollings)

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4 [Introduced March 25, 2013; referred to the Committee on the
5 Judiciary; and then to the Committee on Finance.]

6 _____
7 **FISCAL**
8 **NOTE**

9
10 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by
11 adding thereto a new section, designated §9-3-6, relating to
12 creating a pilot program that provides incentives to
13 recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families cash
14 benefits whose children achieve certain standards of academic
15 performance.

16 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

17 That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended
18 by adding thereto a new section, designated §9-3-6, to read as
19 follows:

20 **ARTICLE 3. APPLICATION FOR AND GRANTING OF ASSISTANCE.**

21 **§9-3-6. Pilot program to promote a culture of educational**
22 **achievement for children of recipients of federal-**

1 **state and state assistance.**

2 (a) The Commissioner of the Division of Human Services shall
3 institute a pilot program, in not more than ten counties in various
4 regions of the state, for recipients of temporary assistance for
5 needy families cash (TANF) benefits who have children attending
6 school in grades six through twelve to incentivize their
7 educational achievement. In counties where this pilot program is
8 implemented, a family's benefit payments shall increase
9 commensurate with the academic achievement of their child's or
10 their household average of children's grades in the following
11 amounts:

12 (1) A two percent increase for a 3.0 grade point average;

13 (2) A two and one-half percent increase for a 3.5 grade point
14 average; or

15 (3) A three percent increase for a 4.0 grade point average.

16 (b) The Commissioner shall propose rules for legislative
17 approval in accordance with the provisions of article three,
18 chapter twenty-nine-a of this code to implement the provisions of
19 this section.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to promote a culture of educational achievement by creating a pilot program that provides incentives to recipients of temporary assistance for needy families cash (TANF) benefits whose children achieve certain standards of academic performance.

This section is new; therefore, strike-throughs and underscoring have been omitted.