

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **79th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1993**
4 **By: Representatives Flanagin and Owens**

H.C.R.

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7 **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

8 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO PURSUE THE
9 USE OF FILL-THE-GAP BUDGETING AND SOCIAL CONTRACTS FOR
10 RECIPIENTS OF BENEFITS UNDER THE AID TO FAMILIES WITH
11 DEPENDENT CHILDREN.

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13 **Subtitle**

14 REQUESTING DHS TO PURSUE FILL-THE-GAP BUDGETING AND SOCIAL
15 CONTRACTS FOR AFDC RECIPIENTS.

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17 WHEREAS, the General Assembly finds that encouraging recipients of
18 benefits under the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program to work and
19 become self-sufficient will help break the poverty cycle;

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21 WHEREAS, it is necessary to have transitional programs to help bridge
22 the gap between dependence on public assistance and self-sufficiency;

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24 WHEREAS, Fill-the-Gap Budgeting and Social Contracts are two (2) such
25 programs;

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27 WHEREAS, Fill-the-Gap Budgeting enhances the state_s ability to provide
28 income support, health care assistance and child care assistance for working
29 poor families with children by reducing work penalties and ensuring the
30 availability of Medicaid and child care during the transition period; and

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32 WHEREAS, a Social Contract program promotes independence of public
33 assistance families by offering opportunities for recipients to increase their
34 skills, self-esteem and visibility in the marketplace by working, performing
35 community service hours and attending education and job training programs,

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2 NOW THEREFORE,

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SEVENTY-NINTH GENERAL
4 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

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6 THAT it is therefore declared to be the legislative intent and policy of
7 this state to require the development of programs that will assist recipients
8 of benefits under the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program in
9 making a successful transition to a self-sufficient lifestyle independent of
10 public assistance.

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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Department of Human Services shall
13 pursue the use of Fill-the-Gap Budgeting for recipients of benefits under the
14 Aid to Families with Dependent Children program. "Fill-the-Gap Budgeting"
15 means programs designed to help public assistance families decrease the
16 difference between the amount of public assistance the family actually
17 receives and the family_s standard of need without decreasing public
18 assistance benefits.

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Department of Human Services shall
21 develop a social contract for recipients of benefits under the Aid to Families
22 with Dependent Children program. The contract may include, but shall not be
23 limited to, provisions that require recipients:

- 24 (1) To work a certain number of hours each week;
25 (2) To perform community service hours;
26 (3) Attend educational programs; or
27 (4) Participate in job training programs.

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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Department of Human Services shall
30 develop a system of day care for children of adult recipients participating in
31 programs under the social contract if funds are appropriated therefor.

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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Department of Human Services shall
34 report on the development of programs under this act to the Joint Interim
35 Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor at least quarterly beginning

1 October 1, 1993.