

No. 1990-44

AN ACT

HB 98

Amending the act of October 22, 1986 (P.L.1452, No.143), entitled "An act expanding the available adult basic education programs and the duties of the Department of Education; making an appropriation; and making a partial repeal," further providing for eligibility for adult literacy education.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. The definition of "eligible adult" in section 3 of the act of October 22, 1986 (P.L.1452, No.143), known as the Adult Literacy Act, is amended to read:

Section 3. Definitions.

The following words and phrases when used in this act shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

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"Eligible adult." A person who meets the following criteria:

- (1) Is at least 17 years of age.
- (2) Is a resident of this Commonwealth.
- (3) **Does not hold a high school diploma or its equivalent.**
- (4) Is not currently enrolled in a public or private secondary or post-secondary school.

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Section 2. Section 4 of the act is amended to read:

Section 4. Grant program.

(a) Establishment.—There is hereby established within the department an adult literacy education grant program. Adult literacy education providers may apply to the department for grants to provide the following services:

- (1) Adult literacy education programs, including salaries, wages, fringe benefits, books and other instructional materials.
- (2) Training for volunteer adult literacy education instructors.
- (3) Administration of adult literacy education programs.
- (4) Support services necessary to enable individuals to participate in and benefit from the program.
- (5) Outreach activities to enroll eligible adults and to recruit volunteer tutors and instructors.

(b) Procedures, rules and forms.—The secretary shall adopt such procedures, rules and forms as may be necessary to implement this grant program. Applications shall be made to the department in such form and at such time as the secretary may prescribe. Funds received under this program may be used in conjunction with funds received from any other public or private source.

(c) Priorities for funding.—The secretary shall consider, but not be limited to, the following factors when evaluating proposals for adult literacy education programs:

(1) **[Number] Percentage** of eligible adults expected to be enrolled **[in classes] for instruction** who are receiving either State or Federal public assistance, or who are unemployed workers or displaced homemakers.

(2) **[Number] Percentage** of eligible adults in any local area who do not have certificates of graduation from a secondary school and who are not currently enrolled in adult literacy education programs.

(3) **[Number] Percentage** of eligible adults expected to be enrolled who are members of minority groups.

(4) **[Number] Percentage** of eligible adults with less than a fifth grade reading level to be served.

[(5) The provision of client outreach and referral activities that are coordinated with other adult education and literacy programs, county assistance offices, social service agencies, offices of employment security, Job Training Partnership Act programs and other community groups or agencies that provide services and assistance to persons in need of basic literacy skills.]

Section 3. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

Section 4.1. Duty of department.

The department shall provide client outreach and referral activities that are coordinated with other adult education and literacy programs, county assistance offices, social service agencies, offices of employment security, Job Training Partnership Act programs and other community groups or agencies that provide services and assistance to persons in need of basic literacy skills.

Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 31st day of May, A. D. 1990.

ROBERT P. CASEY