A bill for an act

relating to human services; modifying MFIP and food stamp provisions; amending Minnesota Statutes 2008, sections 256D.0515; 256J.42, by adding a subdivision; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 256J.24, subdivision 6.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 256D.0515, is amended to read:

256D.0515 ASSET LIMITATIONS FOR FOOD STAMP HOUSEHOLDS.

All food stamp households must be determined eligible for the benefit discussed under section 256.029. Food stamp households must demonstrate that~~:~~

~~(1)~~ their gross income meets the federal Food Stamp requirements under United States Code, title 7, section 2014(c)~~; and~~

~~(2) they have financial resources, excluding vehicles, of less than $7,000~~.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 256J.42, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1a. **Temporary 60-month time limit extension.** For assistance units that have reached the 60-month time limit under subdivision 1 or assistance units that will reach the 60-month time limit under subdivision 1 before the expiration of this subdivision, MFIP benefits are extended to eligible assistance units until the expiration of this subdivision. This subdivision expires July 1, 2011.

Sec. 3. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 256J.24, subdivision 6, is repealed.

256J.24 FAMILY COMPOSITION; ASSISTANCE STANDARDS; EXIT LEVEL.

Subd. 6. **Family cap.** (a) MFIP assistance units shall not receive an increase in the cash portion of the transitional standard as a result of the birth of a child, unless one of the conditions under paragraph (b) is met. The child shall be considered a member of the assistance unit according to subdivisions 1 to 3, but shall be excluded in determining family size for purposes of determining the amount of the cash portion of the transitional standard under subdivision 5. The child shall be included in determining family size for purposes of determining the food portion of the transitional standard. The transitional standard under this subdivision shall be the total of the cash and food portions as specified in this paragraph. The family wage level under this subdivision shall be based on the family size used to determine the food portion of the transitional standard.

(b) A child shall be included in determining family size for purposes of determining the amount of the cash portion of the MFIP transitional standard when at least one of the following conditions is met:

(1) for families receiving MFIP assistance on July 1, 2003, the child is born to the adult parent before May 1, 2004;

(2) for families who apply for the diversionary work program under section 256J.95 or MFIP assistance on or after July 1, 2003, the child is born to the adult parent within ten months of the date the family is eligible for assistance;

(3) the child was conceived as a result of a sexual assault or incest, provided that the incident has been reported to a law enforcement agency;

(4) the child's mother is a minor caregiver as defined in section 256J.08, subdivision 59, and the child, or multiple children, are the mother's first birth; or

(5) any child previously excluded in determining family size under paragraph (a) shall be included if the adult parent or parents have not received benefits from the diversionary work program under section 256J.95 or MFIP assistance in the previous ten months. An adult parent or parents who reapply and have received benefits from the diversionary work program or MFIP assistance in the past ten months shall be under the ten-month grace period of their previous application under clause (2).

(c) Income and resources of a child excluded under this subdivision, except child support received or distributed on behalf of this child, must be considered using the same policies as for other children when determining the grant amount of the assistance unit.

(d) The caregiver must assign support and cooperate with the child support enforcement agency to establish paternity and collect child support on behalf of the excluded child. Failure to cooperate results in the sanction specified in section 256J.46, subdivisions 2 and 2a. Current support paid on behalf of the excluded child shall be distributed according to section 256.741, subdivision 15.

(e) County agencies must inform applicants of the provisions under this subdivision at the time of each application and at recertification.

(f) Children excluded under this provision shall be deemed MFIP recipients for purposes of child care under chapter 119B.