

**Senate Bill No. 661**

(By Senators Walters and Stollings)

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[Introduced March 25, 2013; referred to the Committee on the  
Judiciary; and then to the Committee on Finance.]  
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**FISCAL  
NOTE**

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

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

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

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

**§9-3-6. Pilot program to promote a culture of educational 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.