

1 HOUSE BILL 244

2 **56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2023**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Eleanor Chávez and Yanira Gurrola and Patricia Roybal Caballero

10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE; PROVIDING A STATUTORY BENEFIT
12 AMOUNT FOR GENERAL ASSISTANCE.

14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

15 SECTION 1. Section 27-2-7 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1973,
16 Chapter 376, Section 10, as amended by Laws 1998, Chapter 8,
17 Section 27 and by Laws 1998, Chapter 9, Section 27) is amended
18 to read:

19 "27-2-7. GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM--QUALIFICATIONS AND
20 PAYMENTS.--

21 A. Subject to the availability of state funds,
22 public assistance shall be provided under a general assistance
23 program to or on behalf of eligible persons who:

24 (1) are under eighteen years of age and meet
25 all eligibility conditions for the New Mexico Works Act except

.223925.1

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1 the relationship to the person with whom they are living;

2 (2) are over the age of eighteen and are
3 disabled, according to rules of the department, and are not
4 receiving cash assistance or services pursuant to the New
5 Mexico Works Act;

6 (3) meet the qualifications under other rules
7 for the general assistance program as the department shall
8 establish; or

9 (4) are lawful resident immigrants who would
10 otherwise be eligible for cash assistance or services pursuant
11 to the New Mexico Works Act except that they began residing in
12 the United States after August 22, 1996.

13 B. A person who qualifies for general assistance
14 shall receive five hundred sixteen dollars (\$516) per month.

15 General assistance program payments may be made directly to the
16 recipient or to the vendor of goods or services provided to the
17 recipient. The department may by rule limit the grants that
18 are made to general assistance recipients.

19 C. Whenever the department makes an adjustment in
20 the standard of need for the New Mexico Works Act, subject to
21 the availability of state funds, it shall make a commensurate
22 adjustment in the standard of need for the general assistance
23 program."