

SENATE No. 72

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

An Act to promote self-sufficiency.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 110 (d) of Chapter 5 of the Acts of 1995 is hereby amended by
2 inserting after the end of the first paragraph the following paragraph: -

3 “Notwithstanding any law or provision to the contrary, families ineligible for cash
4 assistance may be considered recipients for purposes of eligibility for employment support
5 program funded services, including child care, provided that such services are made available for
6 the purpose of enabling recipients to begin and/or maintain employment, and that a sliding scale
7 is used to administer those benefits in a manner consistent with facilitating economic
8 independence.”

9 SECTION 2. The Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of
10 Administration and Finance, and the Commissioner of the Department of Transitional Assistance
11 are hereby authorized and directed to develop a methodology for the implementation of Section 1
12 above, by which employment support program funded services are provided to recipients for the
13 purposes of encouraging them to begin or maintain employment without suffering a disadvantage
14 as compared to remaining unemployed in order to receive any and all available benefits.

15 SECTION 3. The provisions of Section 1 shall become effective one year following the
16 passage of this Act. The methodology required by Section 2 shall be developed not later than six
17 months following the passage of this Act.