

HOUSE BILL No. 1126

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 10-17-12-10.

Synopsis: Military family relief fund. Provides that, for purposes of receiving a grant from the military family relief fund, eligibility criteria shall be based on the financial need of the applicant regardless of the applicant's income or assets.

Effective: July 1, 2026.

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January 5, 2026, read first time and referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs and Public Safety.



Second Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2026)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1126

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning public safety.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 10-17-12-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.53-2021,
2 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The commission shall adopt rules under
4 IC 4-22-2 for the provision of grants under this chapter. Subject to
5 subsection (b), the rules adopted under this section must address the
6 following:

- 7 (1) Uniform need determination procedures.
- 8 (2) Eligibility criteria, ~~including income eligibility standards,~~
9 ~~asset limit eligibility standards, and other standards concerning~~
10 ~~when assistance may be provided: which shall be based on the~~
11 **financial need of the applicant regardless of the applicant's**
12 **income or assets.**
- 13 (3) Application procedures.
- 14 (4) Selection procedures.
- 15 (5) A consideration of the extent to which an individual has used
16 assistance available from other assistance programs before
17 assistance may be provided to the individual from the fund.



(6) Other areas in which the commission determines that rules are necessary to ensure the uniform administration of the grant program under this chapter.

(b) The following apply to grants awarded under this chapter:

~~(1) The income eligibility standards must be based on the federal gross income of the qualified service member and the qualified service member's spouse.~~

~~(2) (1)~~ An employee of the department who is otherwise eligible for a grant from the fund must submit the employee's application directly to the commission for review. The department shall have no influence in any part of the employee's application.

~~(3) (2)~~ The maximum amount a qualified service member may receive from the fund is two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500), unless a higher amount is approved by the commission.

~~(4) (3)~~ The commission may consider the following in its analysis of the applicant's request for assistance in excess of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500):

(A) The department's eligibility determination of the applicant.

(B) **Subject to subsection (a)(2)**, facts considered in the department's need determination review and award under 915 IAC 3-6-3 and 915 IAC 3-6-5.

(C) The circumstances surrounding the applicant's hardship, if applicable.

(D) **Subject to subsection (a)(2)**, any substantive changes in the applicant's financial situation after the original application was submitted.

(E) Facts that may have been unknown or unavailable at the time of the applicant's original application for assistance.

(F) Other compelling circumstances that may justify assistance in excess of the two thousand five hundred dollar (\$2,500) threshold.

~~(5) (4)~~ The commission shall approve or deny within sixty (60) days an application for a grant filed with the commission after June 30, 2019, by an employee of the department. The commission shall return an incomplete application with a notation as to omissions. The return of an incomplete application shall be without prejudice.

