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Session of 2001

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As Amended by Senate Committee

SENATE BILL No. 332

By Committee on Ways and Means

2-19

AN ACT establishing the individual development account program for **assistive technology** and **an** individual development account reserve fund *therefore*.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the individual development account program.

Sec. 2. As used in this act:

- (a) "Account holder" means a person who is the owner of an individual development account.
- "Assistive technology" means any item, piece of equipment or product system, whether acquired commercially, off the shelf, modified or customized, that is used to increase, maintain or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities.
- "Community-based organization" means any nonprofit or charitable association that is approved by the secretary of social and rehabilitation services to implement the individual development account reserve fund.
- (d) "Department" means the department of social and rehabilitation services.
- "Federal poverty level" means the most recent poverty income guidelines published in the calendar year by the United States department of health and human services.
- (f) "Financial institution" means any bank, trust company, savings bank, credit union or savings and loan association or any other financial institution regulated by the state of Kansas, any agency of the United States or other state with an office in Kansas which is approved by the secretary to create and manage the necessary financial instruments setting up individual development accounts for eligible families or individuals to implement this program.
- "Individual development account" means a financial instrument established in section 3, and amendments thereto.

- (h) "Individual development account reserve fund" means the fund created by an approved community-based organization for the purposes of funding the costs incurred in the administration of the program by the financial institutions and the community-based organizations and for providing matching funds for moneys in individual development accounts. **Such fund may include federal grant moneys.**
- (i) "Matching funds" means the moneys contributed [designated for contribution] from an individual development account reserve fund to an individual development account by a community-based organization at a one-to-one ratio up to a five-to-one match.
- (j) "Program" means the Kansas individual development account program established in sections 1 through 7, and amendments thereto.
- (k) "Program contributor" means a person or entity, including federal grants, who makes a contribution to an individual development account reserve fund.
- (l) "Secretary" means the secretary of social and rehabilitation services.
- Sec. 3. (a) There is hereby established within the department a program to be known as the individual development account program. The program shall provide eligible families and individuals with an opportunity to establish special savings accounts for moneys which may be used by such families and individuals for assistive technology.
- (b) The secretary shall adopt rules and regulations and policies to implement and administer the provisions of sections 1 through 7, and amendments thereto.
- (c) The secretary shall enter into contracts as deemed appropriate to carry out the provisions of this act.
- (d) The department of social and rehabilitation services shall prepare a request for proposals from community-based organizations seeking to administer an individual development account reserve fund on a not-for-profit basis. The community-based organization proposals shall include:
- (1) A requirement that the community-based organization make matching contributions to the development account of an individual account holder's or family's contributions to the individual development account:
- (2) a process for including account holders in decision making regarding the investment of funds in the accounts;
- (3) specifications of the population or populations targeted for priority participation in the program;
- (4) a process for including economic literacy *education* seminars in the individual development account program; and
- (5) a process for regular evaluation and review of individual development accounts to ensure program compliance by account holders.

- (e) A notice of the request for proposals shall be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper having general circulation in the community at least 30 days before any action thereon. The request for proposals shall also be posted on readily accessible bulletin boards in all offices of the department and sent elsewhere as the secretary deems best
- (f) In reviewing the proposals of community-based organizations, the department shall consider the following factors:
 - (1) The not-for-profit status of such organization;
 - (2) the fiscal accountability of the community-based organization;
- (3) the ability of the community-based organization to provide or raise moneys for matching contributions;
- (4) the ability of the community-based organization to establish and administer a reserve fund account which shall receive all contributions from program contributors; and
- (5) the significance and quality of proposed auxiliary services, including economic literacy *education* seminars and their relationship to the goals of the individual development account program.
- (g) No more than 20% of all funds in the reserve fund account may be used for administrative costs of the program in the first and second years of the program, and no more than 15% of such funds may be used for administrative costs in any subsequent year. Funds deposited by account holders shall not be used for administrative costs.
- (h) No provision of this act shall be deemed to require the department to be obligated to provide matching funds or to incur any expense in the administration of an individual development account reserve fund.
- Sec. 4. A family or individual whose household income is less than or equal to 400% 300% of the federal poverty level may open an individual development account for the purpose of accumulating and withdrawing moneys for specified expenditures. The account holder may withdraw moneys from the account on the approval of the financial institution community-based organization, without penalty, for expenditures for assistive technology.
- Sec. 5. (a) Financial institutions seeking to administer individual development accounts on a not for profit basis approved by the department shall be permitted to establish individual development accounts pursuant to sections 1 through 7, and amendments thereto. The financial institution shall certify to the department, on forms prescribed by the department and accompanied by any documentation required by the department, that such accounts have been established pursuant to this act and that deposits have been made on behalf of the account holder.
 - (b) A financial institution establishing a individual development ac-

count shall:

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- (1) Keep the account in the name of the account holder;
- (2) permit deposits to be made in the account by the following, subject to the indicated conditions:
 - (A) The account holder; or
- (B) a community-based organization on behalf of the account holder. Such a deposit may include moneys to match the account holder's deposits, up to a five to one match rate;
- (3) require the account to earn at least the market rate of interest; and
- (4) permit the account holder to withdraw moneys **upon approval of a community-based organization** from the account for the purpose as provided in section 4, and amendments thereto.
- (c) The total of all deposits by the account holder into an individual development account in a calendar year shall not exceed \$5,000. The total balance in an individual development account at any time shall not exceed \$50,000.
- Sec. 6. (a) Account holders who withdraw moneys from an individual development account not in accordance with the provisions of section 4, and amendments thereto, shall forfeit all matching moneys in the account.
- (b) All moneys forfeited by an account holder pursuant to subsection (a) shall be returned to the individual development account reserve fund of the contributing community-based organization.
- (c) In the event of an account holder's death, the account, minus the match funds, may be transferred to the ownership of a contingent beneficiary. An account holder shall name contingent beneficiaries at the time the account is established and may change such beneficiaries at any time. If the named beneficiary is deceased or otherwise cannot accept the transfer, the moneys shall be transferred to the individual development account reserve fund of the contributing community-based organization.
- Sec. 7. (a) Moneys deposited in an individual development account by an account holder, pursuant to section 4, and amendments thereto, shall be exempt from income taxation imposed under the Kansas income tax act unless withdrawn for an unapproved use.
- (b) Earnings by any financial institution attributable to its individual development accounts shall be exempt from privilege taxation imposed by article 11 of chapter 79 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated.
- (c) Interest earned by an individual development account shall be exempt from taxation under the Kansas income tax act.
- (d) Direct appropriate Appropriate state agencies are hereby directed to amend their state plans to protect the benefits of those receiving such benefits by adding language consistent with the following: Any funds in an individual development account, including accrued interest, shall

be disregarded when determining eligibility to receive the amount of any public assistance or benefits.

- (e) A program contributor shall be allowed a credit against state income tax imposed under the Kansas income tax act in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 [\$25,000] per program contributor or 50% [25%] of the contribution amount, whichever is less.
- (f) The department of social and rehabilitation services shall verify all tax credit claims by contributors. The administration of the community-based organization, with the cooperation of the participating financial institutions, shall submit the names of contributors and the total amount each contributor contributes to the individual development account reserve fund for the calendar year. The secretary shall determine the date by which such information shall be submitted to the secretary by the local administrator. The department shall submit verification of qualified tax credits pursuant to sections 1 through 7 and amendments thereto to the department of revenue.
- (g) The total tax credits authorized pursuant to this section shall not exceed \$4,000,000 \$500,000 in any fiscal year.
- (h) The provisions of this section shall be applicable to all taxable years commencing after December 31, 2000.
- Sec. 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.