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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

H.B. 410  
134<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

## Bill Analysis

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primary Sponsors:** Reps. Click and Jarrells

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### SUMMARY

- Expresses the General Assembly's intent to address public assistance benefits cliffs in Ohio.
- Lists the types of legislation the General Assembly intends to introduce to address benefits cliffs.
- Designates the legislation as the "Actionable Help And New Dignity for Upward Progression (A HAND UP) Act."

### DETAILED ANALYSIS

#### Intent of the General Assembly

The bill states that it is the intent of the 134<sup>th</sup> General Assembly to enact legislation to minimize public assistance benefits cliffs in Ohio. Benefits cliffs occur when individuals experience a sudden and often unexpected decrease in public assistance based on a small and sometimes temporary increase in earnings, resulting in a loss of economic supports and disincentive to work.<sup>1</sup> For example, a recipient of publicly funded child care may encounter a benefits cliff if that recipient's income slightly exceeds income eligibility, causing a loss in child care benefits of a value that exceeds the additional income earned.

To accomplish the goal of minimizing benefits cliffs, the General Assembly intends to introduce legislation addressing the following goals:<sup>2</sup>

- Eliminating barriers individuals face when transitioning from public assistance to work;

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<sup>1</sup> Section 1.

<sup>2</sup> Section 1(A) to (E).

- Transitioning public assistance recipients from consumers of state resources into contributors to Ohio’s economy;
- Removing hindrances to financial independence and replacing them with incentives that lead to independence;
- Replacing the benefits cliff with a bridge to opportunity; and
- Streamlining the public assistance process to promote effective communication and coordination by agencies providing assistance through a centralized process that improves information and direction to public assistance recipients.

## Designation

The bill is designated as the “Actionable Help And New Dignity for Upward Progression (A HAND UP) Act.”<sup>3</sup>

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## HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	09-08-21

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H0410-I-134

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<sup>3</sup> Section 2.