

Date

Title, Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Need to Change the Law Regarding Asset Rules in TANF, GA and Food Stamp Programs

Dear (insert title and name):

As a concerned (insert resident/citizen of state) I am writing to strongly urge you to support a legislative change that would eliminate assets as consideration in determining eligibility for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and General Assistance (GA), and eliminate vehicles from consideration as assets in the Food Stamp Program.

My organization is dedicated to strengthening (insert state name) families and children by building and protecting assets. Asset rules that penalize individuals for saving money and require applicants to spend down assets in order to qualify for temporary assistance are counterproductive to families' long-term self sufficiency and financial stability.

Most applicants and recipients of TANF, GA and Food Stamps have few assets or negative net worth. At a time when resources are limited, complex asset rules that vary by program and increase administrative burden are unnecessary and wasteful. This change would result in very few individuals becoming eligible for benefits. In Ohio and Virginia, elimination of asset tests did not result in significant caseload increases or in negative political fallout.

Asset limit reform is a critical piece of the broader efforts underway in (insert state name) and throughout the country to invest in families and help them move from poverty to prosperity. I strongly urge you to support a legislative change that would eliminate asset tests. I would be happy to meet with you regarding asset limit reform.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_

Print name

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_