

**LaPlante, Jill**

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**From:** melissa@sacoriver.net  
**Sent:** Monday, April 24, 2017 12:40 PM  
**To:** sen.eric.brakey@gmail.com; Katz, Roger; Chipman, Benjamin; Hymanson, Patricia; Perry, Anne; Hamann, Scott; Madigan, Colleen; Denno, Dale; Parker, Jennifer; Sanderson, Deborah; Head, Frances; Malaby, Richard; Chace, Paul; LaPlante, Jill  
**Subject:** TANF eligibility length

Dear Sirs/Madam:

Please consider shortening the length of time families can receive TANF benefits down to 36m. Considering we would still be offering longer assistance than NH and MA, I believe this is more than generous. I appreciate that you have much to consider and would ask that you remember that our main goal in providing ANY kind of assistance is to help people, not to become a way of life for them. Keeping this in mind has aided my own perspective. I work in the medical field and see a great many patients with a plethora of "cards"- none of which carries any special significance to the holder. I mean to convey that they really have no idea how it is that their healthcare is paid for, their food is paid for, their hospital stay is paid for and although I don't see a card for it, they are probably receiving assistance for rent, heat/electricity and other things as well. Ultimately, I have no problem helping people. What I disagree with though is creating generations of dependence. Limiting TANF benefits will be a step in the right direction. Thanks for your consideration.

Melissa Jordan