

**SENATE, No. 1948**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**218th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 22, 2018

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE**

**District 19 (Middlesex)**

**Senator ROBERT M. GORDON**

**District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Makes Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training Provider Demonstration Project permanent and renames program.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program  
2 Employment and Training Provider Demonstration Project and  
3 amending P.L.2013, c.45.

4  
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
6 *of New Jersey:*

7  
8 1. Section 1 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95) is amended to read  
9 as follows:

10 1. **【This act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.) shall be known  
11 and may be cited as the "New Jersey SNAP Employment and  
12 Training Provider **【Demonstration】** Project Act."  
13 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.1)

14  
15 2. Section 2 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-96) is amended to read  
16 as follows:

17 2. As used in **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.):

18 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Human Services.

19 **【"Demonstration project participant" means an eligible**  
20 **participant who elects to participate in the demonstration project**  
21 **established pursuant to this act.】**

22 "Department" means the Department of Human Services.

23 "Eligible participant" means a SNAP recipient who qualifies for  
24 participation in NJ SNAP ETP as a voluntary SNAP ETP  
25 participant or as a mandatory SNAP ETP participant.

26 "Mandatory SNAP ETP participant" means a participant in NJ  
27 SNAP ETP who, as a condition of receiving SNAP benefits: is  
28 required to register for work; is required to fulfill SNAP  
29 employment and training requirements; and has not been exempted  
30 from placement in an NJ SNAP ETP component.

31 "New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program  
32 Employment and Training Provider **【Demonstration】** Project" or  
33 **【"demonstration" project means the 【demonstration】 project**  
34 **established pursuant to 【this act】 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et**  
35 **seq.).**

36 "NJ SNAP ETP" means the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition  
37 Assistance Program Employment and Training Program that assists  
38 SNAP recipients with acquiring the skills, training, work, or  
39 experience necessary to obtain regular employment, as established  
40 under the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program  
41 and as described in the most recent State Employment and Training  
42 Plan submitted to the Food and Nutrition Service in the United  
43 States Department of Agriculture.

**EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** in the above bill is  
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

1 "Non-federal resources" means any of the following resources,  
2 provided that the resources are not from a federal source or used as  
3 a match for other federal funding purposes:

4 (1) cash donations from private firms, charitable foundations, or  
5 non-profit organizations received by partnering providers;

6 (2) local tax levy funds received by partnering providers;

7 (3) certain eligible in-kind contributions received by partnering  
8 providers that are public entities, including property or services  
9 which support the provider's NJ SNAP ETP activities and which are  
10 contributed by non-federal public entities without charge to the  
11 partnering provider; or

12 (4) any other non-federal resources that are currently allowed by  
13 the federal government.

14 "Partnering provider" means a qualifying agency selected to  
15 participate in the **【demonstration】** project.

16 "Project participant" means an eligible participant who elects to  
17 participate in the project established pursuant to P.L.2013, c.45  
18 (C.44:10-95 et seq.).

19 "Qualifying agency" means a local government, non-profit  
20 entity, institution of higher education, foundation, or other eligible  
21 community-based organization that qualifies for allowable federal  
22 SNAP ETP reimbursements pursuant to the federal "Food and  
23 Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.) by  
24 providing allowable services that help SNAP recipients acquire the  
25 skills, training, work, or experience necessary to obtain regular  
26 employment. A qualifying agency may also include a consortium  
27 of organizations.

28 "Service area" means the geographic area of the State in which a  
29 partnering provider provides NJ SNAP ETP services under the  
30 **【demonstration】** project established pursuant to **【this act】**  
31 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.).

32 "SNAP" means the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition  
33 Assistance Program, established pursuant to the federal "Food and  
34 Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.).

35 "SNAP ETP" means the federal Supplemental Nutrition  
36 Assistance Program Employment and Training Program  
37 administered by the Food and Nutrition Service in the United States  
38 Department of Agriculture and established pursuant to the federal  
39 "Food and Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011  
40 et seq.) and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

41 "Voluntary SNAP ETP participant" means a participant in NJ  
42 SNAP ETP who: is exempt from the work registration and  
43 employment and training requirements associated with receiving  
44 SNAP benefits; or who is not exempt from work registration but  
45 who has been exempted from SNAP employment and training  
46 requirements or otherwise exempted from placement in an NJ  
47 SNAP ETP component.

48 "Work First New Jersey TANF benefits" means Temporary  
49 Assistance for Needy Families benefits provided under the Work

1 First New Jersey program established pursuant to P.L.1997, c.38  
2 (C.44:10-55 et seq.) in accordance with the federal "Personal  
3 Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996,"  
4 Pub.L.104-193 (42 U.S.C. s.601 et seq.).  
5 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.2)

6  
7 3. Section 3 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-97) is amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 3. a. The Department of Human Services shall establish the  
10 New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program  
11 Employment and Training Provider **【Demonstration】** Project under  
12 which the department shall form partnerships with qualifying  
13 agencies to provide services to eligible participants under NJ SNAP  
14 ETP and receive federal reimbursements for those services. The  
15 department shall consult with the Department of Labor and  
16 Workforce Development and the county welfare agencies with  
17 respect to the establishment and oversight of the **【demonstration】**  
18 project.

19 b. Applicants for participation as partnering providers in the  
20 **【demonstration】** project shall be qualifying agencies whose  
21 employment and training activities qualify for reimbursement under  
22 the federal SNAP ETP program. Partnering providers in the  
23 **【demonstration】** project shall be selected according to the process  
24 and criteria specified in **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et  
25 seq.).  
26 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.3)

27  
28 4. Section 4 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98) is amended to read  
29 as follows:

30 4. a. The commissioner shall issue a request for proposals from  
31 qualifying agencies to participate in the **【demonstration】** project no  
32 later than 60 days following the effective date of **【this act】**  
33 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.).

34 b. (1) The department shall select no fewer than three  
35 partnering providers, from among qualifying agencies submitting  
36 proposals, to participate in the **【demonstration】** project for **【a】** an  
37 initial period of four years. Partnering providers shall provide  
38 services under NJ SNAP ETP to eligible participants and be eligible  
39 to receive federal reimbursements for those services pursuant to the  
40 conditions of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.).

41 (2) Subject to the availability of federal funds, the commissioner  
42 shall extend the program beyond the initial four year period. The  
43 commissioner shall issue a new request for proposals and shall  
44 select no fewer than three partnering providers, from among  
45 qualifying agencies submitting proposals, to participate in the  
46 project for each subsequent contract period.

47 c. Each qualifying agency shall be evaluated for participation as  
48 a partnering provider in the **【demonstration】** project based on the

1 agency's capacity to: serve eligible participants under NJ SNAP  
2 ETP; identify and utilize non-federal resources qualifying for  
3 federal SNAP ETP reimbursements pursuant to the federal "Food  
4 and Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et  
5 seq.); present and implement a coherent program plan for NJ SNAP  
6 ETP activities, as described in subsection d. of this section; and  
7 perform effectively each of the functions specified in section 6 of  
8 **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-100).

9 d. Each qualifying agency's proposal shall include a program  
10 plan describing how the agency's activities under the  
11 **【demonstration】** project would fulfill the purposes of NJ SNAP  
12 ETP. The program plan shall include, but not be limited to, the  
13 following information:

14 (1) the program goals and objectives, including the agency's  
15 priorities for serving eligible participants in the State;

16 (2) the program design, including: strategies for targeting and  
17 recruiting eligible participants; educational skills and training  
18 activities; work-related activities; job preparation, placement, and  
19 retention activities; strategies for coordinating with the county  
20 welfare agencies and the Department of Labor and Workforce  
21 Development; and strategies for providing support services,  
22 including case management, early intervention, career counseling,  
23 and referrals to additional programs and services;

24 (3) the program budget, including the overall resources to be  
25 used to support the agency's NJ SNAP ETP activities, the specific  
26 non-federal resources to be used to generate federal SNAP ETP  
27 reimbursements, and the intended utilization of anticipated federal  
28 SNAP ETP reimbursements;

29 (4) the extent to which community partners, including  
30 subcontractors, will be involved in the agency's activities; and

31 (5) the agency's plans for performing each of the functions  
32 specified in section 6 of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-100).

33 e. In selecting partnering providers for participation in the  
34 **【demonstration】** project, the department shall prioritize partnering  
35 providers that would:

36 (1) serve SNAP recipients with significant barriers to  
37 employment, including, but not limited to: able-bodied adults  
38 without dependents required to participate in employment and  
39 training programs as a condition of receiving SNAP benefits;  
40 individuals with a history of substance abuse or other work  
41 limitations; ex-offenders; individuals with low literacy or limited  
42 English proficiency; veterans who are not eligible for other  
43 employment and training programs; and persons who are 16 through  
44 24 years of age;

45 (2) serve unemployed or underemployed parents, including non-  
46 custodial parents and parents who have exceeded their Work First  
47 New Jersey TANF 60-month lifetime limit on cash assistance;

1 (3) provide training in both vocational and technical skills, as  
2 well as "soft skills," including, but not limited to: workplace  
3 preparation training, teamwork, problem solving, time management,  
4 and conflict resolution;

5 (4) provide training that results in marketable credentials and  
6 that prepares participants for employment or reemployment in  
7 industries with projections of growth, as the department identifies  
8 those industries in collaboration with the Department of Labor and  
9 Workforce Development;

10 (5) conduct job development activities and identify how job  
11 opportunities will be secured to maximize SNAP recipients'  
12 permanent placement in employment providing compensation at the  
13 level of a living wage and opportunities for wage progression; and

14 (6) demonstrate a proven history of successful job placement  
15 and retention.

16 f. The department may select partnering providers that would  
17 provide NJ SNAP ETP services within any service area including,  
18 but not limited to: the entire State; one or more regions  
19 encompassing several counties; or a single county.

20 g. Upon selection of a partnering provider, the department shall  
21 negotiate and execute a memorandum of understanding with the  
22 partnering provider, the Department of Labor and Workforce  
23 Development, and county welfare agencies, as applicable. The  
24 memorandum of understanding shall define the extent and degree of  
25 assistance among the department, the Department of Labor and  
26 Workforce Development, the county welfare agencies, and the  
27 partnering provider.

28 h. The commissioner shall establish standards of performance  
29 for partnering providers conducting **【demonstration】** project  
30 activities pursuant to **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.),  
31 including, but not limited to, standards for performing the  
32 programmatic functions and financial functions required pursuant to  
33 section 6 of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-100). The  
34 memorandum of understanding negotiated and executed pursuant to  
35 subsection g. of this section shall include a performance-based  
36 system for distributing federal SNAP ETP reimbursements to each  
37 partnering provider based upon the partnering provider's  
38 achievement of the standards of performance.

39 i. Upon finding that a partnering provider has not conducted its  
40 **【demonstration】** project activities in accordance with the standards  
41 of performance established in subsection h. of this section or that a  
42 partnering provider has otherwise failed to comply with the  
43 requirements of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.), the  
44 commissioner may: take such action as is necessary to correct the  
45 deficiencies of the provider; and terminate the partnering provider's  
46 participation in the **【demonstration】** project if the provider fails to  
47 take remedial action.

48 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.4)

1       5. Section 5 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-99) is amended to read  
2 as follows:

3       5. a. A county welfare agency shall collaborate with all  
4 partnering providers whose service areas include the county to:  
5 inform all eligible participants, upon determination of their  
6 eligibility for SNAP benefits, of all **【demonstration】** project  
7 activities operating within the county; permit all eligible  
8 participants to participate in any **【demonstration】** project activities  
9 available within the county; and assist eligible participants with  
10 contacting partnering providers operating **【demonstration】** project  
11 activities. A county welfare agency may advise an eligible  
12 participant as to the applicability and appropriateness of specific  
13 **【demonstration】** activities to the eligible participant's case, but the  
14 county welfare agency shall not assign an eligible participant to  
15 **【demonstration】** project activities without the eligible participant's  
16 consent.

17       b. A partnering provider shall collaborate with all county  
18 welfare agencies within the provider's service area to: inform all  
19 eligible participants, upon determination of their eligibility for  
20 SNAP benefits, of the availability of **【demonstration】** project  
21 services; and assist the county welfare agencies with identifying  
22 those eligible participants for whom participation in the partnering  
23 provider's NJ SNAP ETP activities would be most applicable and  
24 appropriate.

25       c. A partnering provider shall serve all eligible participants  
26 residing within the provider's service area who elect to participate  
27 in the provider's **【demonstration】** project activities. Except as  
28 provided in this section, a partnering provider shall not deny or  
29 terminate the participation of any **【demonstration】** project  
30 participant.

31       d. Mandatory SNAP ETP participants may elect, for the purpose  
32 of fulfilling their SNAP employment and training requirements, to  
33 participate in a partnering provider's **【demonstration】** project  
34 activities. The participation of a mandatory SNAP ETP participant  
35 in a partnering provider's **【demonstration】** project activities shall  
36 constitute placement in an NJ SNAP ETP component and shall  
37 fulfill SNAP employment and training requirements for the duration  
38 of the mandatory SNAP ETP participant's participation. A county  
39 welfare agency shall assign a mandatory SNAP ETP participant  
40 who does not elect to participate in any **【demonstration】** project  
41 activities to another NJ SNAP ETP component outside of the  
42 **【demonstration】** project, as available.

43       e. Mandatory SNAP ETP participants who elect to participate in  
44 **【demonstration】** project activities but who subsequently do not  
45 cooperate with, or participate in, those activities shall not be subject  
46 to penalties for noncompliance with SNAP employment and  
47 training requirements during their participation in the

1   **【demonstration】** project. Partnering providers shall terminate the  
2   **【demonstration】** project participation of any non-cooperating or  
3   non-participating mandatory SNAP ETP participants and refer the  
4   non-cooperating or non-participating mandatory SNAP ETP  
5   participants to the applicable county welfare agency. The applicable  
6   county welfare agency shall assign the non-cooperating or non-  
7   participating mandatory SNAP ETP participant to another NJ SNAP  
8   ETP component outside of the **【demonstration】** project, as  
9   available.

10    f. Nothing in **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.)  
11   shall be construed to limit the authority of the county welfare  
12   agencies or the department to impose penalties for noncompliance  
13   with SNAP employment and training requirements on mandatory  
14   SNAP ETP participants who: are terminated from participation in  
15   **【demonstration】** project activities due to non-cooperation or non-  
16   participation; and subsequently refuse or fail to comply with SNAP  
17   employment and training requirements upon placement within  
18   another NJ SNAP ETP component outside of the **【demonstration】**  
19   project.

20    g. A partnering provider may deny or terminate the participation  
21   of any **【demonstration】** project participant who is not appropriately  
22   matched to the partnering provider's **【demonstration】** project  
23   activities upon obtaining approval from the applicable county  
24   welfare agency.  
25   (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.5)

26  
27    6. Section 6 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-100) is amended to read  
28   as follows:

29    6. a. Each partnering provider shall be required to perform the  
30   following programmatic functions and to maintain sufficient  
31   capacity to perform these functions effectively:

32      (1) assist **【demonstration】** project participants with obtaining  
33      and retaining employment;

34      (2) provide **【demonstration】** project participants with  
35      appropriate NJ SNAP ETP services and participant reimbursements  
36      that fulfill the purposes of NJ SNAP ETP and that qualify for  
37      federal SNAP ETP reimbursements. These services and participant  
38      reimbursements may include, but are not limited to: job search and  
39      placement services; job readiness assistance; education or training  
40      that improves basic skills and general employability; specific job  
41      skills training or vocational education; work experience that  
42      improves the employability of **【demonstration】** project participants;  
43      subsidized employment; workfare; self-employment training;  
44      services related to the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998,  
45      Pub.L.105-220 (29 U.S.C. s.2801 et seq.); job retention services; or  
46      reimbursements for **【demonstration】** project participant expenses,  
47      including dependent care costs, transportation expenses, books or  
48      training manuals, fees, uniforms, equipment and tools required for



- 1 employment, or personal safety items required for program
- 2 participation;
- 3 (3) assess and place **【demonstration】** project participants into
- 4 appropriate NJ SNAP ETP services, as defined in paragraph (2) of
- 5 this subsection;
- 6 (4) provide **【demonstration】** project participants with support
- 7 services, including case management, early intervention, career
- 8 counseling, and referrals to additional programs and services;
- 9 (5) verify whether potential **【demonstration】** project
- 10 participants are receiving SNAP benefits and make referrals, as
- 11 appropriate, to assist potential **【demonstration】** project participants
- 12 with applying for SNAP benefits;
- 13 (6) collaborate with county welfare agencies to develop
- 14 processes and materials that: inform eligible participants regarding
- 15 **【demonstration】** project activities within each county, in
- 16 accordance with each partnering provider's service area; facilitate
- 17 eligible participants' communications with partnering providers
- 18 regarding participation in **【demonstration】** project activities; and
- 19 assist eligible participants with rendering decisions regarding their
- 20 participation in **【demonstration】** project activities;
- 21 (7) assist **【demonstration】** project participants with continuing
- 22 to meet administrative requirements, work requirements,
- 23 employment and training requirements, and other requirements for
- 24 maintaining SNAP eligibility;
- 25 (8) coordinate with the department and county welfare agencies
- 26 on a monthly basis to verify that **【demonstration】** project
- 27 participants are receiving SNAP benefits and are not receiving
- 28 Work First New Jersey TANF benefits;
- 29 (9) coordinate with the county welfare agencies and the
- 30 department to distinguish mandatory SNAP ETP participants from
- 31 voluntary SNAP ETP participants;
- 32 (10) provide uninterrupted NJ SNAP ETP services and
- 33 participant reimbursements to mandatory SNAP ETP participants
- 34 electing to participate in the **【demonstration】** project who become
- 35 voluntary SNAP ETP participants and to voluntary SNAP ETP
- 36 participants electing to participate in the **【demonstration】** project
- 37 who become mandatory SNAP ETP participants, subject to the
- 38 provisions for terminating **【demonstration】** project participation
- 39 pursuant to section 5 of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-99);
- 40 (11) maintain program records and report to the department the
- 41 following monthly information for each claimed NJ SNAP ETP
- 42 participant: program, participant name, participant Social Security
- 43 number, services and reimbursements received, and weekly hours;
- 44 (12) prepare and submit to the department invoice and
- 45 certification letters each quarter for the total non-federal resources
- 46 and program expenditures qualifying for federal SNAP ETP
- 47 reimbursements for the quarter;

1 (13) monitor **【demonstration】** project participants and  
2 subcontractors and provide detailed reports of participants,  
3 activities, and outcomes to the department on a regular basis;

4 (14) devote sufficient staff time and expertise to fulfill NJ  
5 SNAP ETP administrative and reporting requirements;

6 (15) collaborate with the department to ensure that federal  
7 SNAP ETP reimbursements received under the **【demonstration】**  
8 program are expended in accordance with all applicable federal  
9 laws and regulations; and

10 (16) report to the department and county welfare agencies on a  
11 monthly basis the identities of any mandatory SNAP ETP  
12 participants who are not cooperating with, or participating in,  
13 assigned services or work, as applicable to mandatory SNAP ETP  
14 participants who elect to participate in the **【demonstration】** project.

15 b. Each partnering provider shall be required to perform the  
16 following financial functions and to maintain sufficient capacity to  
17 perform the functions effectively:

18 (1) maintain cash flow necessary to manage the delay from  
19 program outlays to SNAP ETP reimbursements;

20 (2) manage federal grants, track expenditures, and ensure that  
21 non-federal resources and program expenditures qualify for federal  
22 SNAP ETP reimbursements;

23 (3) perform cost allocation using multiple funds;

24 (4) track staff time devoted to NJ SNAP ETP activities under  
25 this **【demonstration】** project; and

26 (5) maintain records for State audits.

27 c. Partnering providers may establish agreements with  
28 subcontracting organizations to support their NJ SNAP ETP  
29 activities under this **【demonstration】** project.

30 d. The department shall consider educational activities serving  
31 eligible participants at community colleges as qualifying for federal  
32 SNAP ETP reimbursements to the greatest extent allowable under  
33 federal laws and regulations. In accordance with section 273.5 of  
34 title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, individuals enrolled at least  
35 half-time in an institution of higher education who are assigned to,  
36 or placed in, an NJ SNAP ETP educational activity, including  
37 individuals who voluntarily participate in NJ SNAP ETP activities  
38 or who otherwise make self-initiated placements, and who meet all  
39 SNAP eligibility requirements shall be determined eligible for  
40 SNAP benefits and shall be eligible for participation in the  
41 **【demonstration】** project.

42 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.6)

43

44 7. Section 7 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-101) is amended to read  
45 as follows:

46 7. a. The county welfare agencies, under the oversight of the  
47 department, shall assist partnering providers by:

1 (1) collaborating with partnering providers, the department, and  
2 the Department of Labor and Workforce Development to conduct  
3 outreach to potential **【demonstration】** project participants and to  
4 refer potential **【demonstration】** project participants to the  
5 partnering providers;

6 (2) collaborating with partnering providers to develop processes  
7 and materials that inform eligible participants regarding: the  
8 availability of **【demonstration】** project activities within each  
9 county, in accordance with each partnering provider's service area;  
10 the option for eligible participants to participate in **【demonstration】**  
11 project activities; the applicability and appropriateness of specific  
12 **【demonstration】** activities to the eligible participant's case; and the  
13 means by which eligible participants may contact partnering  
14 providers regarding **【demonstration】** project participation;

15 (3) determining potential **【demonstration】** project participants'  
16 SNAP eligibility and providing the results of eligibility  
17 determinations to partnering providers;

18 (4) developing and implementing a process to verify that  
19 potential **【demonstration】** project participants are receiving SNAP  
20 benefits and not receiving Work First New Jersey TANF benefits  
21 and ensuring that this verification process adheres to all applicable  
22 federal laws and regulations restricting the unauthorized disclosure  
23 of information concerning applicants for, and recipients of, SNAP  
24 or TANF benefits;

25 (5) determining each potential **【demonstration】** project  
26 participant's status as a voluntary SNAP ETP participant or a  
27 mandatory SNAP ETP participant, in coordination with partnering  
28 providers;

29 (6) confirming each **【demonstration】** project participant's SNAP  
30 eligibility on a monthly basis; and

31 (7) collaborating with partnering providers to develop criteria  
32 and procedures for terminating the participation of eligible  
33 participants in a partnering provider's **【demonstration】** project  
34 activities including, but not limited to: eligible participants who are  
35 not appropriately matched to a partnering provider's  
36 **【demonstration】** project activities; and any mandatory SNAP ETP  
37 participants who are not cooperating with, or participating in,  
38 assigned services or work, as applicable to mandatory SNAP ETP  
39 participants who elect to participate in the **【demonstration】** project.

40 b. The department shall, in consultation with the county welfare  
41 agencies and the Department of Labor and Workforce  
42 Development:

43 (1) assist partnering providers with understanding the  
44 administrative requirements, work requirements, employment and  
45 training requirements, and other requirements for **【demonstration】**  
46 project participants to maintain SNAP eligibility;

1 (2) assist partnering providers with understanding the  
2 requirements for non-federal resources and program expenditures to  
3 generate federal SNAP ETP reimbursements;

4 (3) submit requests for federal SNAP ETP reimbursements and  
5 fulfill all reporting and other SNAP ETP administrative  
6 responsibilities required by the Food and Nutrition Service in the  
7 United States Department of Agriculture;

8 (4) distribute federal SNAP ETP reimbursements received by  
9 the State under this **【demonstration】** project to the partnering  
10 providers whose non-federal resources and program expenditures  
11 generated the federal reimbursements, in accordance with the  
12 provisions of section 8 of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-102);

13 (5) collect data concerning partnering providers and  
14 **【demonstration】** project participants, activities, and outcomes; and

15 (6) audit partnering providers on a routine basis to ensure fiscal  
16 and program integrity.

17 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.7)

18  
19 8. Section 8 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-102) is amended to read  
20 as follows:

21 8. a. The department shall submit a revised State Employment  
22 and Training Plan to the Food and Nutrition Service in the United  
23 States Department of Agriculture, in accordance with section 273.7  
24 (c) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, in order to expand NJ  
25 SNAP ETP to include **【demonstration】** project partnerships with  
26 qualifying agencies. The revised State Employment and Training  
27 Plan shall define the services to be provided under NJ SNAP ETP,  
28 including, but not limited to, the **【demonstration】** project services  
29 provided pursuant to **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.).  
30 The department shall submit the revised State Employment and  
31 Training Plan to the Food and Nutrition Service as soon as  
32 practicable but no later than the first day of the seventh month next  
33 following the effective date of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-  
34 95 et seq.).

35 b. The commissioner shall take such additional steps as may be  
36 necessary to secure approval from the Food and Nutrition Service in  
37 the United States Department of Agriculture for this  
38 **【demonstration】** project and to ensure that the State and partnering  
39 providers are in compliance with all applicable provisions of federal  
40 and State laws and regulations.

41 c. The department may reserve up to five percent of the federal  
42 SNAP ETP reimbursements generated as a direct result of the  
43 activities of the partnering providers and received by the State  
44 pursuant to **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.) for  
45 operating expenses and staff directly related to the administration,  
46 oversight, and evaluation of this **【demonstration】** project. The  
47 remaining federal SNAP ETP reimbursements generated as a direct  
48 result of the activities of the partnering providers and received by

1 the State pursuant to **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.)  
2 shall be distributed to the partnering providers whose expenditures  
3 generated the federal SNAP ETP reimbursements on a pro-rata  
4 basis and in accordance with the performance-based system for  
5 distributing federal SNAP ETP reimbursements established  
6 pursuant to section 4 of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98).  
7 Within the request for proposals issued pursuant to **【this act】**  
8 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.), the department shall describe  
9 the performance-based system for distributing federal SNAP ETP  
10 reimbursements and indicate the net percentage of federal SNAP  
11 ETP reimbursements that shall be distributed to partnering  
12 providers.

13 d. The department shall apply for any additional federal funds  
14 which may be available to implement the provisions of **【this act】**  
15 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.), including, but not limited to,  
16 any unobligated, unexpended federal SNAP ETP funds originally  
17 allocated to other state agencies and available for reallocation  
18 pursuant to section 273.7 (d) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations.

19 e. The commissioner may solicit, receive, and accept grants,  
20 funds, or anything of value from any public or private entity and  
21 receive and accept contributions of money, property, labor, or any  
22 other thing of value from any legitimate source to support the  
23 **【demonstration】** project, provided that the commissioner does not  
24 have reason to believe that the entity may have a vested interest in  
25 the decisions of the commissioner or the department concerning the  
26 selection of specific partnering providers.

27 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.8)

28

29 9. Section 9 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-103) is amended to read  
30 as follows:

31 9. The commissioner shall issue a report no later than six  
32 months following the effective date of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45  
33 (C.44:10-95 et seq.), and annually thereafter no later than  
34 September 30 of each year, to the Governor and, pursuant to section  
35 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature summarizing  
36 the participants, activities, and outcomes of the **【demonstration】**  
37 project. The initial report under this section shall include, but not  
38 be limited to, a summary of the request for proposals issued  
39 pursuant to section 4 of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98).  
40 Subsequent reports under this section shall include, but not be  
41 limited to, the identities of the partnering providers selected  
42 pursuant to section 4 of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98) and  
43 a summary of **【demonstration】** project participant demographics,  
44 activities, and outcomes for each partnering provider. The reports  
45 issued pursuant to this section shall not disclose the identities of  
46 any SNAP applicants or recipients and shall adhere to all applicable  
47 federal laws and regulations restricting the unauthorized disclosure

1 of information concerning applicants for, and recipients of, SNAP  
2 benefits.  
3 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.9)  
4

5 10. This act shall take effect immediately.  
6  
7

8 **STATEMENT**  
9

10 This bill makes the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program  
11 Employment and Training Provider Demonstration Project  
12 permanent, and renames the program to recognize that it would no  
13 longer be a demonstration program.

14 The SNAP ETP Provider Demonstration Project was enacted into  
15 law in 2013, and began operation in 2014. The project is intended  
16 to allow SNAP participants to obtain job training and develop the  
17 necessary skills to find and keep regular employment. As of early  
18 2018, the program provides grants to two entities: Blessed  
19 Ministries, Inc. and YouthBuild Newark, Inc. The authorizing  
20 statute specifies that the demonstration project is to run for four  
21 years, and so these contracts are set to expire in August 2018. This  
22 bill would allow the agencies currently participating in the program,  
23 as well as new agencies, to apply to provide job and skills training  
24 services to SNAP participants in the future.