

[Second Reprint]

## **ASSEMBLY, No. 2361**

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

## **220th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 7, 2022

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman ANGELICA M. JIMENEZ**

**District 32 (Bergen and Hudson)**

**Assemblywoman SHAVONDA E. SUMTER**

**District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Assemblywoman BRITNEE N. TIMBERLAKE**

**District 34 (Essex and Passaic)**

**Senator ANDREW ZWICKER**

**District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset)**

**Senator M. TERESA RUIZ**

**District 29 (Essex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywomen Reynolds-Jackson, McKnight, Haider, Assemblymen Wimberly, Freiman, Assemblywomen Lampitt, Jasey, Lopez and Senator Pou**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires DHS to maintain SNAP outreach plan and to conduct additional outreach programs.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee on June 23, 2022, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/29/2022)

1 AN ACT <sup>1</sup>establishing a <sup>1</sup>concerning the<sup>1</sup> Supplemental Nutrition  
 2 Assistance Program outreach plan, <sup>1</sup>and<sup>1</sup> supplementing Title 44  
 3 of the Revised Statutes <sup>1</sup>[, and making an appropriation]<sup>1</sup>.  
 4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
 6 *of New Jersey:*  
 7

8 1. a. The department <sup>1</sup>[, working in consultation and  
 9 cooperation with community-based organizations and county  
 10 welfare agencies,]<sup>1</sup> shall <sup>1</sup>develop and implement<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup>, consistent  
 11 with federal requirements, maintain<sup>1</sup> a <sup>1</sup>comprehensive<sup>1</sup> SNAP  
 12 outreach plan targeted at increasing potential beneficiaries' access  
 13 to:

14 (1) information regarding the availability of SNAP, the criteria  
 15 for eligibility for SNAP benefits, and the various methods to apply  
 16 for SNAP benefits; and

17 (2) the technological means to apply for SNAP benefits.

18 b. <sup>1</sup>At a minimum, the department's outreach plan developed  
 19 pursuant to subsection a. of this section<sup>1</sup> The department<sup>1</sup> shall <sup>1</sup>,  
 20 subject to available funds, conduct additional outreach programs,  
 21 which may<sup>1</sup> include:

22 (1) establishing a SNAP Navigator <sup>1</sup>Grant<sup>1</sup> Program, the  
 23 purpose of which shall be to <sup>1</sup>distribute grant funding, via a  
 24 process and method determined by the commissioner, to  
 25 community-based organizations to support the employment of <sup>1</sup>  
 26 recruit, train, and support<sup>1</sup> SNAP application navigators <sup>1</sup>]. In  
 27 distributing grants under the program, the commissioner shall give  
 28 priority to community-based organizations that assist underserved  
 29 communities<sup>1</sup> via a process and method determined by the  
 30 commissioner<sup>1</sup>;

31 (2) <sup>1</sup>providing<sup>1</sup> making available<sup>1</sup> training to the appropriate  
 32 staff at community-based organizations regarding the necessary  
 33 steps to complete and submit a SNAP application, through all  
 34 available methods, including online and by telephone. Staff trained  
 35 pursuant to this paragraph shall assist clients with the SNAP  
 36 application process;

37 (3) partnering with community-based organizations to increase  
 38 client access to computers and the online SNAP application;  
 39 <sup>1</sup>and<sup>1</sup>

40 (4) providing SNAP information and resources to beneficiaries  
 41 of public assistance programs who are served by the department and  
 42 county welfare agencies, and who are likely to be eligible for, but  
 43 are not currently receiving, SNAP benefits<sup>1</sup>; and

**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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted May 19, 2022.

<sup>2</sup>Senate SHH committee amendments adopted June 23, 2022.

1       (5) conducting a public awareness campaign using available  
2 media, including television, radio, print, and social media, to inform  
3 the<sup>2</sup> public of the availability of SNAP<sup>1</sup>.

4       c. As used in this section:

5       “Commissioner” means Commissioner of Human Services.

6       <sup>1</sup>“County welfare agency” means that agency of county  
7 government, which is charged with the responsibility for  
8 determining eligibility and issuing benefits for public assistance  
9 programs. The term county welfare agency shall include, but not be  
10 limited to, agencies that may be locally known as the Board of  
11 Social Services; the Department of Citizen Services; the Division of  
12 Welfare; the Division of Social Services; the Division of Temporary  
13 Assistance and Social Services; or as the Department of Family and  
14 Community Development.”<sup>1</sup>

15       “Department” means the Department of Human Services.

16       “Public assistance program” means any program administered  
17 through the Department of Human Services, a county welfare  
18 agency, or a collaboration between the two which is authorized to  
19 provide assistance and services to needy persons, including, but not  
20 limited to: the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance  
21 Program, established pursuant to the federal “Food and Nutrition  
22 Act of 2008,” Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.); the Work  
23 First New Jersey program established pursuant to P.L.1997, c.38  
24 (C.44:10-55 et seq.); and the Medicaid program established  
25 pursuant to P.L.1968, c.413 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.).

26       “SNAP” means the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition  
27 Assistance Program, established pursuant to the federal “Food and  
28 Nutrition Act of 2008,” Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.).

29  
30       2. The Commissioner of Human Services <sup>1</sup>“, pursuant to the  
31 “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
32 seq.), shall” may<sup>1</sup> promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the  
33 provisions of this act <sup>1</sup>,which rules and regulations shall be  
34 effective immediately upon filing with the Office of Administrative  
35 Law for a period not to exceed 18 months, and may, thereafter, be  
36 amended, adopted, or readopted in accordance with the provisions  
37 of the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-  
38 1 et seq.)<sup>1</sup>.

39  
40       <sup>1</sup>“3. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the  
41 Department of Human Services such an amount as is necessary, as  
42 determined by the Commissioner of Human Services, to effectuate  
43 paragraph (1) of subsection b. of section 1 of this act.”<sup>1</sup>

44  
45       <sup>1</sup>“4.” 3.<sup>1</sup> This act shall take effect immediately.