

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 2027

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman SHANIQUE SPEIGHT

District 29 (Essex and Hudson)

Assemblywoman ELIANA PINTOR MARIN

District 29 (Essex and Hudson)

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District 20 (Union)

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex and Hudson)

Senator ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT

District 31 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywomen Donlon, Peterpaul, Reynolds-Jackson, Katz, Murphy, Hall, Assemblyman Miller, Assemblywomen Bagolie, Lampitt, Ramirez, Senators Burgess, Mukherji, Turner and Timberlake

SYNOPSIS

Establishes One-Year State Work First New Jersey Menstrual Hygiene Benefit Pilot Program and State Work First New Jersey Diaper Benefit Pilot Program; appropriates \$2.5 million to DHS.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended by the Senate on June 28, 2024.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/28/2024)

1 AN ACT concerning a monthly State benefit for menstrual hygiene
2 products and diaper products under the Work First New Jersey
3 Program, supplementing P.L.1997, c.38 (C.44:10-55), and
4 making an appropriation.

5

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

8

9 1. a. There is established in the Division of Family Development
10 in the Department of Human Services the State WFNJ Menstrual
11 Hygiene Benefit ¹Pilot¹ Program. Under the ¹pilot¹ program, the
12 division shall distribute to each menstruator participating in WFNJ
13 who is 18 to 50 years of age, a monthly State benefit of \$14 ¹to defray
14 the costs of menstrual hygiene products¹ . The ¹director of the¹
15 division shall ¹establish a process to¹ distribute the ¹\$14¹ monthly
16 State benefit via the participant's existing WFNJ electronic benefits
17 card, on the same issuance date as the participant's standard WFNJ
18 benefits. A participant shall be required to use any monthly State
19 benefit issued pursuant to this section for menstrual hygiene products.
20 ¹The division shall educate participants that the purpose of the
21 additional benefit is for the purchase of menstrual hygiene products.¹
22 Any unspent funds from a participant's monthly State WFNJ
23 Menstrual Hygiene Benefit shall be ¹【carried over to the next month,
24 for use by the participant for the same purpose】 subject to WFNJ
25 program benefit expungement and aging rules¹ .

26

b. As used in this section,

27

“Menstrual hygiene products” means tampons, menstrual cups, or
28 sanitary napkins used to collect or absorb menstrual fluids.

29

“WFNJ” means the Work First New Jersey Program, established
30 pursuant to P.L.1997, c.38 (C.44:10-55 et seq.) in accordance with
31 authorization received under Title IV of the federal "Personal
32 Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996,"
33 Pub.L.104-193 (8 U.S.C. s.1601 et seq.), and includes both the
34 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program and the General
35 Assistance program.

36

37 2. a. There is established in the Division of Family Development
38 in the Department of Human Services the State WFNJ Diaper Benefit
39 ¹Pilot¹ Program. Under the ¹pilot¹ program, the division shall
40 distribute to each person participating in WFNJ a monthly State
41 benefit of \$30 for each dependent of the person who is under 36
42 months of age ¹to defray the costs of diaper products¹. The ¹director
43 ¹of the¹ division shall ¹establish a process to¹ distribute the ¹\$30¹

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:

¹Senate floor amendments adopted June 28, 2024.

1 monthly State benefit via the participant's existing WFNJ electronic
2 benefits card, on the same issuance date as the participant's standard
3 WFNJ benefits. A participant shall be required to use any monthly
4 State benefit issued pursuant to this section for diaper products. ¹The
5 division shall educate participants that the purpose of the additional
6 benefit is for the purchase of diaper products.¹ Any unspent funds
7 from a participant's monthly State WFNJ Diaper Benefit shall be
8 ¹carried over to the next month, for use by the participant for the
9 same purpose ¹subject to WFNJ program benefit expungement and
10 aging rules¹.

11 b. As used in this section, "WFNJ" means the Work First New
12 Jersey program, established pursuant to P.L.1997, c.38 (C.44:10-55 et
13 seq.) in accordance with authorization received under Title IV of the
14 federal "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation
15 Act of 1996," Pub.L.104-193 (8 U.S.C. s.1601 et seq.).
16

17 ¹3. No later than one month following the completion of the State
18 WFNJ Menstrual Hygiene Benefit Pilot Program and the State WFNJ
19 Diaper Benefit Pilot Program established pursuant to this act, the
20 Commissioner of Human Services shall prepare and submit to the
21 Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1),
22 the Legislature a report evaluating the effectiveness of the State WFNJ
23 Menstrual Hygiene Benefit Pilot Program and the State WFNJ Diaper
24 Benefit Pilot Program, which report shall include, but not be limited
25 to, the number of participants who benefited from each pilot program
26 and any recommendations for policy or legislative action to continue
27 or improve the pilot programs.¹
28

29 ¹[3.] 4.¹ The Commissioner of Human Services shall adopt
30 rules and regulations, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure
31 Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), as may be necessary to
32 implement the provisions of this act.
33

34 ¹[4.] 5.¹ There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
35 Division of Family Development in the Department of Human
36 Services \$2,500,000 to effectuate the provisions of this act.
37

38 ¹[5.] 6.¹ This act shall take effect on the first day of the
39 ¹[fourth] sixth¹ month next following the date of enactment, but the
40 Commissioner of Human Services may take such anticipatory
41 administrative action in advance thereof as may be necessary for the
42 implementation of this act ¹, and this act shall expire one year after the
43 effective date except that section 3 shall expire after the submission of
44 the report to the Governor and Legislature required pursuant to section
45 3 of this act¹.