

**ASSEMBLY, No. 1775**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**220th LEGISLATURE**

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PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2022 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI**

**District 33 (Hudson)**

**Assemblyman ROBERT J. KARABINCHAK**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman Danielsen, Assemblywomen Murphy, McKnight, Lopez,**

**Assemblyman Benson and Assemblywoman Jasey**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires DCA to provide certain information on low-income home energy assistance program, annually update its low-income home energy assistance program handbook, and provide quarterly training sessions on administering program.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee with technical review.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/26/2022)**

1    **AN ACT** concerning the administration of the low-income home  
2       energy assistance benefits program and supplementing Title 52  
3       of the Revised Statutes.

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

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8       1.   a.   The Department of Community Affairs shall establish a  
9       schedule of days and hours of operation, a toll-free telephone  
10      number, and a downloadable application on its Internet website to  
11      facilitate the receipt of benefits under the federal Low Income  
12      Home Energy Assistance Program, established pursuant to 42  
13      U.S.C. s.8621 et seq.

14     b.   The department shall prepare and annually update a  
15      handbook containing the governing policies and eligibility  
16      requirements for the federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance  
17      Program. The department shall annually distribute copies of the  
18      handbook and its updates to each agency designated by the  
19      department to obtain, review, and process applications for benefits  
20      under that program.

21     c.   The department shall adopt training sessions regarding the  
22      Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program that cover subjects  
23      including, but not limited to, enrollment procedures, eligibility  
24      requirements, and fraud detection. The training sessions shall be  
25      provided on a quarterly basis and open to any agency that obtains,  
26      reviews, and processes applications under that program.

27     d.   (1) Each director, manager, supervisor, and employee of an  
28      agency that obtains, reviews, and processes Low Income Home  
29      Energy Assistance Program applications, who performs or  
30      supervises such program work, shall read the annually updated  
31      handbooks distributed by the department pursuant to subsection b.  
32      of this section and shall comply with the policies and procedures set  
33      forth therein for the applicable year.

34     (2) Each supervisor of an agency that obtains, reviews, and  
35      processes Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program  
36      applications, who supervises such program work, shall attend the  
37      quarterly training sessions provided by the department pursuant to  
38      subsection c. of this section.

39     e.   The department may disqualify an agency from serving as an  
40      agency that obtains, reviews, and processes Low Income Home  
41      Energy Assistance Program applications for failure to substantially  
42      comply with the requirements of subsection d. of this section.

43     f.   The Commissioner of Community Affairs shall promulgate  
44      rules and regulations, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure  
45      Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), in order to effectuate  
46      the provisions of this act.

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48     2.   This act shall take effect immediately.