

ASSEMBLY HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 2663

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

with committee amendments

DATED: MARCH 10, 2022

The Assembly Human Services Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 2663, with committee amendments.

As amended by the committee, this bill provides that every household in the State that is eligible to receive benefits under the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) shall receive a minimum annual energy assistance payment of \$21 in order to qualify the household for a heating and cooling standard utility allowance under the SNAP program, in accordance with federal law, unless a standard utility allowance would have been unavailable to the household under the State and federal criteria for SNAP and any applicable energy assistance programs that were in place as of July 1, 2013. The bill authorizes the Commissioner of Community Affairs to adopt rules and regulations to implement the bill.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amendments add language expressly providing that the annual energy assistance payment of \$21 will qualify the household for a heating and cooling standard utility allowance under the SNAP program, in accordance with federal law, unless a standard utility allowance would have been unavailable to the household under the State and federal criteria for SNAP and any applicable energy assistance programs that were in place as of July 1, 2013.