

# SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

**SENATE, No. 3960**

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: DECEMBER 14, 2023

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 3960 (1R).

This bill extends the authority of the Commissioner of Human Services to provide an extension of emergency assistance to the following: full-time caretakers of a disabled child or another disabled dependent; permanently disabled individuals; individuals over sixty years of age; or chronically unemployable individuals. Legislation, enacted in 2018, stipulated that the provisions extending this authority were to expire on the first day of the 60th month after the effective date of the 2018 law. This bill extends the authority from 60 months to 120 months after the effective date of the 2018 law.

### FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services determines that annual State expenditures will increase between \$6.4 million and \$7.4 million in order to extend by five years the Commissioner of Human Services' authority to provide an extension of emergency assistance benefits for recipients of Work First New Jersey/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Work First New Jersey/General Assistance, or Supplemental Security Income benefits. Under current law, the commissioner's authority to provide this benefits extension will expire on February 1, 2024.

Since county welfare agencies serve as a conduit for providing emergency assistance to the beneficiary population, any additional increase in State expenditures under the bill will result in an equivalent revenue gain and expenditure increase for county governments.