

ASSEMBLY, No. 1019

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman JOANN DOWNEY

District 11 (Monmouth)

Assemblywoman BRITNEE N. TIMBERLAKE

District 34 (Essex and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Requires county welfare agencies to conduct full eligibility screening of public assistance and social service programs for each applicant.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** concerning county welfare agencies and supplementing
2 Title 44 of the Revised statutes.

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

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7 1. A county welfare agency shall conduct a full eligibility
8 screening of the public assistance and social service programs
9 administered by the agency for each member of the public who
10 submits an application for one, but less than all, of the public
11 assistance and social service programs for which the agency accepts
12 applications.

13 For the purposes of this act:

14 “County welfare agency” means that agency of county
15 government, which is charged with the responsibility for
16 determining eligibility for public assistance and social service
17 programs. “County welfare agency” includes, but is not limited to,
18 any agency that may be locally known as the Board of Social
19 Services; the Department of Citizen Services; the Division of
20 Welfare; the Division of Social Services; the Division of Temporary
21 Assistance and Social Services; or the Department of Family and
22 Community Development.

23 “Public assistance and social service program” means any
24 program administered through a county welfare agency, which
25 program is authorized to provide assistance and services to needy
26 persons, including, but not limited to: the New Jersey
27 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program established pursuant to
28 the federal “Food and Nutrition Act of 2008,” Pub.L.110-246 (7
29 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.); the Work First New Jersey program
30 established pursuant to P.L.1997, c.38 (C.44:10-55 et seq.); and the
31 Medicaid program established pursuant to P.L.1968, c.413
32 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.).

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34 2. The Commissioner of Human Services shall adopt rules and
35 regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act"
36 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) to effectuate the purposes of
37 this act.

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39 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the sixth month
40 next following the date of enactment, except that the Commissioner
41 of Human Services may take any anticipatory administrative action
42 in advance as shall be necessary for the implementation of this act.

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STATEMENT

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47 This bill requires county welfare agencies to conduct a full
48 eligibility screening of public assistance and social service

1 programs administered by the agency for each member of the public
2 who submits an application for one, but less than all, of the public
3 assistance and social service programs for which the agency accepts
4 applications.

5 Under the bill, a “county welfare agency” means that agency of
6 county government, which is charged with the responsibility for
7 determining eligibility for public assistance and social service
8 programs. The term includes, but is not limited to, agencies that
9 may be locally known as the Board of Social Services; the
10 Department of Citizen Services; the Division of Welfare; the
11 Division of Social Services; the Division of Temporary Assistance
12 and Social Services; or the Department of Family and Community
13 Development.

14 The bill further defines “public assistance and social service
15 program” to mean any program administered through a county
16 welfare agency, which program is authorized to provide assistance
17 or services to needy persons, including, but not limited to: the New
18 Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known
19 as the Food Stamp Program, established pursuant to the federal
20 “Food and Nutrition Act of 2008,” Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011
21 et seq.); the Work First New Jersey (WFNJ) program - which
22 encompasses the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program
23 and the General Assistance program - established pursuant to
24 P.L.1997, c.38 (C.44:10-55 et seq.); and the Medicaid program
25 established pursuant to P.L.1968, c.413 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.).