

[Second Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 4241

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 8, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman JOANN DOWNEY

District 11 (Monmouth)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

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District 7 (Burlington)

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District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

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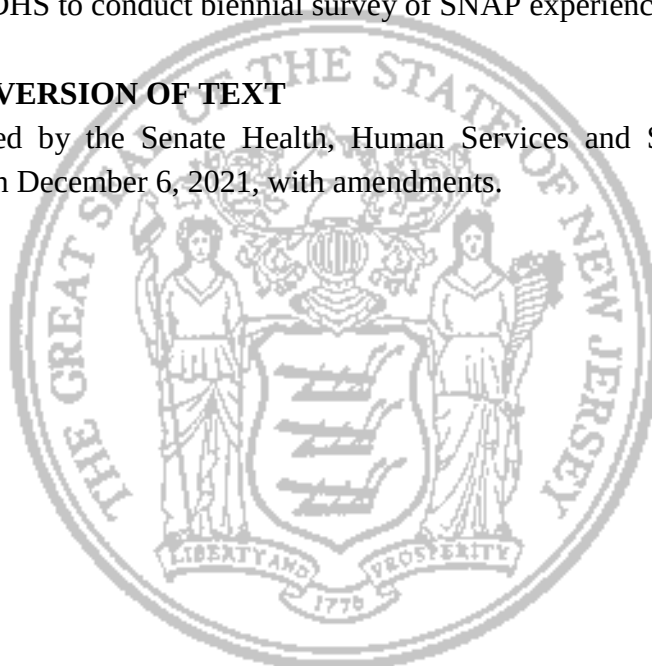
Assemblywomen Speight, Lampitt and Lopez

SYNOPSIS

Requires DHS to conduct biennial survey of SNAP experience.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee on December 6, 2021, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/10/2022)

1 AN ACT concerning the evaluation of the New Jersey Supplemental
 2 Nutrition Assistance Program application process and
 3 supplementing Title 44 of the Revised Statutes.

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

7
 8 1. a. The Department of Human Services shall conduct a
 9 ¹biennial¹ survey of ²**[county welfare agencies]** SNAP applicants
 10 and beneficiaries² for the purpose of evaluating the SNAP
 11 experience of ²the² applicants and beneficiaries. The ¹biennial¹
 12 survey shall include, at a minimum, questions concerning the
 13 applicant's ²or beneficiary's² experience ¹in¹ navigating the SNAP
 14 application process, any difficulties the applicant ²or beneficiary²
 15 encountered in the application process, the availability of consumer
 16 support at the county welfare agency, and how well the applicant's
 17 ²or beneficiary's² questions and concerns were addressed by staff at
 18 the county welfare agency.

19 b. The purpose of the ¹biennial¹ survey shall be to:

20 (1) identify the strengths and weaknesses of each county welfare
 21 agency in processing SNAP applications;

22 (2) formulate trainings or strategies to improve the processing of
 23 SNAP applications; and

24 (3) assess which counties require additional resource and staff
 25 support.

26 c. ¹**[The]** ²**[Each]** When conducting the biennial² survey
 27 ²**[developed by]** required pursuant to this section,² the department
 28 shall ²**[be]** ensure the survey is² distributed to ²all² SNAP
 29 applicants at each county welfare agency ²throughout the duration
 30 of the survey period².

31 d. The commissioner ²**[shall make survey data collected**
 32 **pursuant to this section available through the Department of Human**
 33 **Services' Internet website in a user-friendly format, and]**² shall, no
 34 later than 18 months after the ¹**[effective date of**
 35 **P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)]**
 36 completion of each biennial survey¹, submit a report to the
 37 ¹**[Legislature]** ²**[Senate Health, Human Services and Senior**
 38 **Citizens Committee and the Assembly Human Services Committee,**
 39 or their successor committees¹ ²**[Legislature]**², pursuant to section 2
 40 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), ¹**[concerning]** documenting¹ the
 41 results of the ¹biennial¹ survey and ¹providing¹ the commissioner's
 42 recommendations for legislation or other appropriate action.

43 e. As used in this section:

44 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Human Services.

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:

¹Assembly AHU committee amendments adopted August 10, 2020.

²Senate SHH committee amendments adopted December 6, 2021.

1 "Department" means the Department of Human Services.

2 "SNAP" means the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition
3 Assistance Program, established pursuant to the federal "Food and
4 Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.)
5 and P.L.1998, c.32 (C.44:10-79 et seq.).

6
7 2. The Commissioner of ¹~~Health~~ Human Services¹, pursuant
8 to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-
9 1 et seq.), shall promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the
10 provisions of this act.

11

12 3. This act shall take effect immediately.