

ASSEMBLY, No. 5765

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 18, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblywoman ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT

District 31 (Hudson)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Conaway, Verrelli and Assemblywoman Pintor Marin

SYNOPSIS

Requires Commissioner of Human Services to request authorization for SNAP benefits to be used to pay delivery charges for online grocery purchases.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/1/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance
2 Program.

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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. The Commissioner of Human Services shall request that the
8 Food and Nutrition Service within the United States Department of
9 Agriculture take such steps as are necessary to permit funds available
10 through the “Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program” (SNAP),
11 established pursuant to the federal “Food and Nutrition Act of 2008,”
12 Pub.L.88-525 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.), to be utilized by individuals
13 receiving SNAP benefits to pay the delivery fee levied by an
14 authorized New Jersey SNAP retailer for home delivery of the
15 individual’s SNAP-eligible purchase.

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17 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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22 This bill would permit an individual who receives benefits under
23 the “Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program,” (SNAP) to use
24 funds available through the individual’s SNAP electronic benefits
25 transfer card to pay the delivery charge for home delivery of the
26 individual’s SNAP-eligible grocery purchase. In March 2020, the
27 United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) opened its pilot
28 program for online grocery purchasing to New Jersey’s SNAP
29 participants. Individuals participating in New Jersey SNAP may
30 purchase groceries online through Amazon, and at participating
31 Walmart, The Fresh Grocers, and ShopRite stores. Currently, the
32 USDA does not allow the use of SNAP funds to pay the fee charged
33 for home delivery of grocery purchases.

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35 The SNAP is a nutrition assistance entitlement program for low-
36 income households regulated by Food and Nutrition Service within
37 the USDA, pursuant to the “Food and Nutrition Act of 2008,”
38 Pub.L.88-525 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.). At the State level, the
39 program is administered by the county welfare agencies, under the
40 supervision of the Division of Family Development (DFD) in the
Department of Human Services.