

# SENATE, No. 1078

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 30, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER**

**District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senator Pou**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires Commissioner of Human Services to streamline SNAP application process for senior citizens and conduct outreach regarding senior SNAP participation.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 8/27/2020)**

1   **AN ACT** concerning the participation of senior citizens in the New  
2       Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and  
3       supplementing Title 44 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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8       1.   a.   The Commissioner of Human Services, to the maximum  
9       extent permissible under federal law, shall review and streamline  
10      the SNAP application process for senior citizens, as provided in this  
11      section. The goal of the streamlining process shall be to ensure that  
12      the number of senior SNAP participants either matches or exceeds  
13      the national average.

14      b.   In streamlining the SNAP application process for seniors, as  
15      required by this section, the commissioner shall, at a minimum:

16          (1) develop and make available a simplified SNAP application  
17          form for use by seniors;

18          (2) provide for the increased sharing of data between the State's  
19          various social services programs and platforms; and

20          (3) authorize, and establish appropriate procedures to facilitate,  
21          the simultaneous or cross enrollment of eligible seniors in the  
22          Medicaid program and SNAP.

23      c.   The Department of Human Services, working in consultation  
24      and cooperation with relevant senior citizen advocacy  
25      organizations, shall engage in comprehensive outreach efforts to  
26      ensure that all eligible seniors are made aware of their ability to  
27      apply for and obtain SNAP benefits through a streamlined and  
28      expedited process. At a minimum, the department shall provide  
29      outreach at all health care facilities, social service agencies that  
30      serve seniors in the State, and other organizations focused on food  
31      assistance, and shall use all available media, including print, radio,  
32      television, and the Internet, to inform residents on the availability of  
33      the streamlined SNAP application process established pursuant to  
34      this section.

35      d.   The Commissioner of Human Services shall apply to the  
36      Food and Nutrition Service within the United States Department of  
37      Agriculture for any necessary waivers or approvals to implement  
38      the provisions of this section.

39      e.   As used in this section:

40          "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Human Services.

41          "Department" means the Department of Human Services"

42          "Medicaid program" means the State Medicaid program,  
43          established pursuant to P.L.1968, c.413 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.).

44          "Senior citizen" or "senior" means a person who is 60 years of  
45          age or older.

46          "SNAP" means the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition  
47          Assistance Program, established pursuant to the federal "Food and  
48          Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.).

