

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 220

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

209th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 25, 2001

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

District 15 (Mercer)

Assemblyman REED GUSCIORA

District 15 (Mercer)

SYNOPSIS

Urges Congress to increase minimum monthly allotment for Food Stamp Program.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION urging the Congress of the United States
2 to increase the minimum monthly allotment for the federal Food
3 Stamp Program.

4
5 WHEREAS, The minimum monthly allotment for one-person and two-
6 person households under the federal Food Stamp Program is
7 currently \$10, which is the same amount as was established by the
8 "Food Stamp Act of 1977"; and

9 WHEREAS, The amount of food that could be purchased in 1977 for
10 \$10 costs \$29.19 in 2001; the amount of food that can be
11 purchased in 2001 for \$10 only cost \$3.43 in 1977; and

12 WHEREAS, The "Mickey Leland Memorial Domestic Hunger Relief
13 Act," which was enacted in 1990, amended the Food Stamp Act to
14 annually adjust the minimum monthly allotment, with the result
15 rounded to the nearest \$5, in accordance with annual adjustments
16 to other elements of the Food Stamp Program; and

17 WHEREAS, The "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity
18 Reconciliation Act of 1996" amended the Food Stamp Act to
19 remove the provision for annual adjustments to the minimum
20 monthly allotment; and

21 WHEREAS, Annual cost-of-living adjustments are currently made to
22 maximum monthly allotments and income eligibility standards for
23 the Food Stamp Program; and

24 WHEREAS, The maximum monthly income, minus deductions
25 allowable within the program, for eligibility for the Food Stamp
26 Program is \$696 for one-person households and \$938 for two-
27 person households; one-person households with a monthly income
28 between \$400 and \$696 and two-person households with a monthly
29 income between \$760 and \$938 are eligible for no more than the
30 \$10 minimum monthly allotment; now, therefore,

31
32 BE IT RESOLVED *by the General Assembly of the State of New*
33 *Jersey:*

34
35 1. This House urges the Congress of the United States to increase
36 the minimum monthly allotment for one-person and two-person
37 households under the federal Food Stamp Program from \$10 to \$25
38 and require that the minimum be adjusted annually in accordance with
39 changes in the federal cost-of-living.

40
41 2. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the
42 Speaker of the General Assembly and attested by the Clerk of the
43 General Assembly, shall be forwarded to the Secretary of Agriculture,
44 the presiding officers of the Congress of the United States and each
45 member of New Jersey's Congressional delegation.

1 STATEMENT

2

3 This resolution urges the Congress of the United States to increase
4 the minimum monthly allotment for one-person and two-person
5 households under the federal Food Stamp Program from \$10 to \$25
6 and require that the minimum be adjusted annually in accordance with
7 changes in the federal cost-of-living.

8 The minimum monthly allotment for one-person and two-person
9 households under the federal Food Stamp Program is currently \$10,
10 which is the same amount as was established by the "Food Stamp Act
11 of 1977." The amount of food that could be purchased in 1977 for
12 \$10 costs \$29.19 in 2001, and the amount of food that can be
13 purchased in 2001 for \$10 only cost \$3.43 in 1977. Annual cost-of-
14 living adjustments are currently made to maximum monthly allotments
15 and income eligibility standards for the Food Stamp Program.