

ASSEMBLY, No. 306

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 210th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2002 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman REED GUSCIORA

District 15 (Mercer)

Assemblywoman BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

District 15 (Mercer)

SYNOPSIS

Requires Commissioner of Human Services to streamline food stamp application form.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning applications for food stamp benefits and
2 supplementing Title 44 of the Revised Statutes.

3

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

6

7 1. The Commissioner of Human Services shall streamline the
8 application form for participation in the federal food stamp program
9 authorized by Title XIII of the "Food and Agriculture Act of 1977,"
10 Pub.L.95-113 (7 U.S.C.s.2011 et seq.), and the New Jersey
11 Supplementary Food Stamp Program established pursuant to
12 P.L.1998, c.32 (C.44:10-79 et seq.), which is currently used by
13 persons who are not applying for other public assistance, so that the
14 appropriate form, including all instructions and information relating to
15 the application procedure, eligibility determination, and accompanying
16 information that is required to be furnished by the applicant, is no
17 more than five pages in length. The commissioner shall require that
18 use of the streamlined application form commence no later than the
19 180th day after the effective date of this act.

20

21 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

22

23

24

STATEMENT

25

26 This bill requires the Commissioner of Human Services to
27 streamline the application form for participation in the federal food
28 stamp program and the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp
29 Program, which is currently used by persons who are not applying for
30 other public assistance, so that the appropriate form, including all
31 instructions and information relating to the application procedure,
32 eligibility determination, and accompanying information that is
33 required to be furnished by the applicant, is no more than five pages
34 in length. The commissioner shall require that use of the streamlined
35 application form commence no later than the 180th day after the
36 effective date of the bill.

37

38 The purpose of this bill is to require that New Jersey emulate other
39 states that have adopted the use of a shorter, more "user-friendly"
40 application form for food stamp applicants. It is the sponsor's intent
41 that this form be designed in such a manner that the effort required to
complete it is not unduly burdensome to the applicant.