

# ASSEMBLY, No. 2198

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 210th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 26, 2002

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman ROSE MARIE HECK**

**District 38 (Bergen)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires DHS to make application for food stamp program available on website.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



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

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

6  
7 1. The Director of the Division of Family Development in the  
8 Department of Human Services shall make any application used in the  
9 State for the federal and State supplementary food stamp programs  
10 available on the Department of Human Services' State website. Each  
11 application shall be available on the website in a version that can be  
12 printed and in a version that can be completed online.

13  
14 2. The Commissioner of Human Services shall adopt rules and  
15 regulations, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"  
16 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to effectuate the purposes of  
17 this act.

18  
19 3. This act shall take effect on the 180th day following enactment,  
20 but the Commissioner of Human Services may take such anticipatory  
21 administrative action in advance as shall be necessary for the  
22 implementation of the act.

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24  
25 STATEMENT

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27 This bill requires the Director of the Division of Family  
28 Development in the Department of Human Services to make any  
29 application used in the State for the federal and State supplementary  
30 food stamp programs available on the Department of Human Services'  
31 State website. The bill also requires that each application be available  
32 on the website in a version that can be printed and in a version that can  
33 be completed online.

34 The bill would provide households with another point of access to  
35 the application, which does not require visiting a food stamp office or  
36 waiting for an application to arrive in the mail. For those households  
37 who choose to file the application online, processing of their  
38 applications can begin promptly and without a visit to a food stamp  
39 office.

40 Federal regulation permits households to file a food stamp  
41 application by submitting the forms to the food stamp office in person,  
42 through an authorized representative, by fax or other electronic  
43 transmission, by mail, or by completing an on-line electronic  
44 application. However, current New Jersey regulation only permits  
45 households to file an application in person, through an authorized  
46 representative or by mail.