

ASSEMBLY, No. 2199

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
210th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 26, 2002

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ROSE MARIE HECK

District 38 (Bergen)

SYNOPSIS

Requires county welfare agencies to assist food stamp applicants with verification.

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:*

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7 1. The Director of the Division of Family Development in the
8 Department of Human Services shall require a county welfare agency
9 to assist any household applying for the federal and State
10 supplementary food stamp programs in obtaining documentary
11 evidence to support statements on the food stamp application and to
12 resolve any questionable information. The director shall also require
13 a county welfare agency to provide each household, at initial
14 certification and recertification for the federal and State supplementary
15 food stamp programs, with a notice of required verification if the
16 household is required to provide information necessary to complete
17 the certification process. The notice shall inform the household that
18 the county welfare agency will assist the household in obtaining the
19 needed verification if the household encounters difficulty, and that
20 failure to secure the required information may affect the household's
21 eligibility for food stamp benefits.

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

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28 3. This act shall take effect on the 180th day following enactment.
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31 STATEMENT

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33 This bill provides that the Director of the Division of Family
34 Development in the Department of Human Services shall require a
35 county welfare agency to assist any household applying for the federal
36 and State supplementary food stamp programs in obtaining
37 documentary evidence to support statements on the application and to
38 resolve any questionable information. The director shall also require
39 a county welfare agency to provide each household, at initial
40 certification and recertification for the federal and State supplementary
41 food stamp programs, with a notice of required verification if the
42 household is required to provide information necessary to complete
43 the certification process. The notice shall inform the household that
44 the county welfare agency will assist the household in obtaining the
45 needed verification if the household encounters difficulty, and that
46 failure to secure the required information may affect the household's

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1 eligibility for food stamp benefits.

2 The provisions of this bill would ensure that applicants for the
3 federal and State supplementary food stamp programs will be given
4 every opportunity to demonstrate their eligibility for the food stamp
5 programs.

6 This bill would codify rules and regulations for the food stamp
7 program that have been adopted by the department.