

ASSEMBLY, No. 2201

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 assign households eligible for food stamp benefits longest possible certification period.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



A2201 HECK

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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 assign each household eligible to receive food stamp benefits the
10 longest certification period possible based on the predictability of the
11 household's circumstances and in accordance with federal law.

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

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18 3. This act shall take effect on the 180th day following enactment.

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STATEMENT

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23 This bill provides that the Director of the Division of Family
24 Development in the Department of Human Services shall require a
25 county welfare agency to assign each household eligible to receive
26 food stamp benefits the longest certification period possible based on
27 the predictability of the household's circumstances and in accordance
28 with federal law. Under current federal law and regulations, a
29 household comprised entirely of elderly or disabled individuals may be
30 allowed up to a 24-month certification period, any other household
31 may be allowed up to a 12-month certification period.

32 By assigning the longest possible certification period to households
33 eligible for food stamp benefits, county welfare agencies can reduce
34 the amount of time and effort required for a household to maintain
35 eligibility for food stamp benefits.

36 The provisions of this bill are consistent with rules and regulations
37 for the food stamp program that have been adopted by the department.