

ASSEMBLY, No. 3647

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 12, 2018

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO

District 20 (Union)

Assemblyman JAMEL C. HOLLEY

District 20 (Union)

Assemblywoman YVONNE LOPEZ

District 19 (Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Makes Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training Provider Demonstration Project permanent and renames program.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/8/2018)

1 AN ACT concerning the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
2 Employment and Training Provider Demonstration Project and
3 amending P.L.2013, c.45.

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

7
8 1. Section 1 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95) is amended to read
9 as follows:

10 1. **[This act]** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.) shall be known
11 and may be cited as the "New Jersey SNAP Employment and
12 Training Provider **[Demonstration]** Project Act."
13 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.1)

14
15 2. Section 2 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-96) is amended to read
16 as follows:

17 2. As used in **[this act]** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.):

18 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Human Services.

19 **["Demonstration project participant"** means an eligible
20 participant who elects to participate in the demonstration project
21 established pursuant to this act.]

22 "Department" means the Department of Human Services.

23 "Eligible participant" means a SNAP recipient who qualifies for
24 participation in NJ SNAP ETP as a voluntary SNAP ETP
25 participant or as a mandatory SNAP ETP participant.

26 "Mandatory SNAP ETP participant" means a participant in NJ
27 SNAP ETP who, as a condition of receiving SNAP benefits: is
28 required to register for work; is required to fulfill SNAP
29 employment and training requirements; and has not been exempted
30 from placement in an NJ SNAP ETP component.

31 "New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
32 Employment and Training Provider **[Demonstration]** Project" or
33 **["demonstration]** project" means the **[demonstration]** project
34 established pursuant to **[this act]** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et
35 seq.).

36 "NJ SNAP ETP" means the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition
37 Assistance Program Employment and Training Program that assists
38 SNAP recipients with acquiring the skills, training, work, or
39 experience necessary to obtain regular employment, as established
40 under the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
41 and as described in the most recent State Employment and Training
42 Plan submitted to the Food and Nutrition Service in the United
43 States Department of Agriculture.

44 "Non-federal resources" means any of the following resources,
45 provided that the resources are not from a federal source or used as
46 a match for other federal funding purposes:

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

- 1 (1) cash donations from private firms, charitable foundations, or
2 non-profit organizations received by partnering providers;
3 (2) local tax levy funds received by partnering providers;
4 (3) certain eligible in-kind contributions received by partnering
5 providers that are public entities, including property or services
6 which support the provider's NJ SNAP ETP activities and which are
7 contributed by non-federal public entities without charge to the
8 partnering provider; or
9 (4) any other non-federal resources that are currently allowed by
10 the federal government.

11 "Partnering provider" means a qualifying agency selected to
12 participate in the **【demonstration】** project.

13 "Project participant" means an eligible participant who elects to
14 participate in the project established pursuant to P.L.2013, c.45
15 (C.44:10-95 et seq.).

16 "Qualifying agency" means a local government, non-profit
17 entity, institution of higher education, foundation, or other eligible
18 community-based organization that qualifies for allowable federal
19 SNAP ETP reimbursements pursuant to the federal "Food and
20 Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.) by
21 providing allowable services that help SNAP recipients acquire the
22 skills, training, work, or experience necessary to obtain regular
23 employment. A qualifying agency may also include a consortium
24 of organizations.

25 "Service area" means the geographic area of the State in which a
26 partnering provider provides NJ SNAP ETP services under the
27 **【demonstration】** project established pursuant to **【this act】**
28 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.).

29 "SNAP" means the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition
30 Assistance Program, established pursuant to the federal "Food and
31 Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.).

32 "SNAP ETP" means the federal Supplemental Nutrition
33 Assistance Program Employment and Training Program
34 administered by the Food and Nutrition Service in the United States
35 Department of Agriculture and established pursuant to the federal
36 "Food and Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011
37 et seq.) and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

38 "Voluntary SNAP ETP participant" means a participant in NJ
39 SNAP ETP who: is exempt from the work registration and
40 employment and training requirements associated with receiving
41 SNAP benefits; or who is not exempt from work registration but
42 who has been exempted from SNAP employment and training
43 requirements or otherwise exempted from placement in an NJ
44 SNAP ETP component.

45 "Work First New Jersey TANF benefits" means Temporary
46 Assistance for Needy Families benefits provided under the Work
47 First New Jersey program established pursuant to P.L.1997, c.38
48 (C.44:10-55 et seq.) in accordance with the federal "Personal

1 Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996,"
2 Pub.L.104-193 (42 U.S.C. s.601 et seq.).
3 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.2)

4
5 3. Section 3 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-97) is amended to read
6 as follows:

7 3. a. The Department of Human Services shall establish the
8 New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
9 Employment and Training Provider **【Demonstration】** Project under
10 which the department shall form partnerships with qualifying
11 agencies to provide services to eligible participants under NJ SNAP
12 ETP and receive federal reimbursements for those services. The
13 department shall consult with the Department of Labor and
14 Workforce Development and the county welfare agencies with
15 respect to the establishment and oversight of the **【demonstration】**
16 project.

17 b. Applicants for participation as partnering providers in the
18 **【demonstration】** project shall be qualifying agencies whose
19 employment and training activities qualify for reimbursement under
20 the federal SNAP ETP program. Partnering providers in the
21 **【demonstration】** project shall be selected according to the process
22 and criteria specified in **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et
23 seq.).
24 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.3)

25
26 4. Section 4 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98) is amended to read
27 as follows:

28 4. a. The commissioner shall issue a request for proposals from
29 qualifying agencies to participate in the **【demonstration】** project no
30 later than 60 days following the effective date of **【this act】**
31 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.).

32 b. (1) The department shall select no fewer than three partnering
33 providers, from among qualifying agencies submitting proposals, to
34 participate in the **【demonstration】** project for **【a】** an initial
35 period of four years. Partnering providers shall provide services under NJ
36 SNAP ETP to eligible participants and be eligible to receive federal
37 reimbursements for those services pursuant to the conditions of
38 **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.).

39 (2) Subject to the availability of federal funds, the commissioner
40 shall extend the program beyond the initial four year period. The
41 commissioner shall issue a new request for proposals and shall
42 select no fewer than three partnering providers, from among
43 qualifying agencies submitting proposals, to participate in the
44 project for each subsequent contract period.

45 c. Each qualifying agency shall be evaluated for participation as
46 a partnering provider in the **【demonstration】** project based on the
47 agency's capacity to: serve eligible participants under NJ SNAP

1 ETP; identify and utilize non-federal resources qualifying for
2 federal SNAP ETP reimbursements pursuant to the federal "Food
3 and Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et
4 seq.); present and implement a coherent program plan for NJ SNAP
5 ETP activities, as described in subsection d. of this section; and
6 perform effectively each of the functions specified in section 6 of
7 **[this act]** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-100).

8 d. Each qualifying agency's proposal shall include a program
9 plan describing how the agency's activities under the
10 **[demonstration]** project would fulfill the purposes of NJ SNAP
11 ETP. The program plan shall include, but not be limited to, the
12 following information:

13 (1) the program goals and objectives, including the agency's
14 priorities for serving eligible participants in the State;

15 (2) the program design, including: strategies for targeting and
16 recruiting eligible participants; educational skills and training
17 activities; work-related activities; job preparation, placement, and
18 retention activities; strategies for coordinating with the county
19 welfare agencies and the Department of Labor and Workforce
20 Development; and strategies for providing support services,
21 including case management, early intervention, career counseling,
22 and referrals to additional programs and services;

23 (3) the program budget, including the overall resources to be
24 used to support the agency's NJ SNAP ETP activities, the specific
25 non-federal resources to be used to generate federal SNAP ETP
26 reimbursements, and the intended utilization of anticipated federal
27 SNAP ETP reimbursements;

28 (4) the extent to which community partners, including
29 subcontractors, will be involved in the agency's activities; and

30 (5) the agency's plans for performing each of the functions
31 specified in section 6 of **[this act]** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-100).

32 e. In selecting partnering providers for participation in the
33 **[demonstration]** project, the department shall prioritize partnering
34 providers that would:

35 (1) serve SNAP recipients with significant barriers to
36 employment, including, but not limited to: able-bodied adults
37 without dependents required to participate in employment and
38 training programs as a condition of receiving SNAP benefits;
39 individuals with a history of substance abuse or other work
40 limitations; ex-offenders; individuals with low literacy or limited
41 English proficiency; veterans who are not eligible for other
42 employment and training programs; and persons who are 16 through
43 24 years of age;

44 (2) serve unemployed or underemployed parents, including non-
45 custodial parents and parents who have exceeded their Work First
46 New Jersey TANF 60-month lifetime limit on cash assistance;

47 (3) provide training in both vocational and technical skills, as
48 well as "soft skills," including, but not limited to: workplace

- 1 preparation training, teamwork, problem solving, time management,
2 and conflict resolution;
- 3 (4) provide training that results in marketable credentials and
4 that prepares participants for employment or reemployment in
5 industries with projections of growth, as the department identifies
6 those industries in collaboration with the Department of Labor and
7 Workforce Development;
- 8 (5) conduct job development activities and identify how job
9 opportunities will be secured to maximize SNAP recipients'
10 permanent placement in employment providing compensation at the
11 level of a living wage and opportunities for wage progression; and
- 12 (6) demonstrate a proven history of successful job placement
13 and retention.
- 14 f. The department may select partnering providers that would
15 provide NJ SNAP ETP services within any service area including,
16 but not limited to: the entire State; one or more regions
17 encompassing several counties; or a single county.
- 18 g. Upon selection of a partnering provider, the department shall
19 negotiate and execute a memorandum of understanding with the
20 partnering provider, the Department of Labor and Workforce
21 Development, and county welfare agencies, as applicable. The
22 memorandum of understanding shall define the extent and degree of
23 assistance among the department, the Department of Labor and
24 Workforce Development, the county welfare agencies, and the
25 partnering provider.
- 26 h. The commissioner shall establish standards of performance
27 for partnering providers conducting **【demonstration】** project
28 activities pursuant to **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.),
29 including, but not limited to, standards for performing the
30 programmatic functions and financial functions required pursuant to
31 section 6 of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-100). The
32 memorandum of understanding negotiated and executed pursuant to
33 subsection g. of this section shall include a performance-based
34 system for distributing federal SNAP ETP reimbursements to each
35 partnering provider based upon the partnering provider's
36 achievement of the standards of performance.
- 37 i. Upon finding that a partnering provider has not conducted its
38 **【demonstration】** project activities in accordance with the standards
39 of performance established in subsection h. of this section or that a
40 partnering provider has otherwise failed to comply with the
41 requirements of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.), the
42 commissioner may: take such action as is necessary to correct the
43 deficiencies of the provider; and terminate the partnering provider's
44 participation in the **【demonstration】** project if the provider fails to
45 take remedial action.
- 46 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.4)

1 5. Section 5 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-99) is amended to read
2 as follows:

3 5. a. A county welfare agency shall collaborate with all
4 partnering providers whose service areas include the county to:
5 inform all eligible participants, upon determination of their
6 eligibility for SNAP benefits, of all **【demonstration】** project
7 activities operating within the county; permit all eligible
8 participants to participate in any **【demonstration】** project activities
9 available within the county; and assist eligible participants with
10 contacting partnering providers operating **【demonstration】** project
11 activities. A county welfare agency may advise an eligible
12 participant as to the applicability and appropriateness of specific
13 **【demonstration】** activities to the eligible participant's case, but the
14 county welfare agency shall not assign an eligible participant to
15 **【demonstration】** project activities without the eligible participant's
16 consent.

17 b. A partnering provider shall collaborate with all county
18 welfare agencies within the provider's service area to: inform all
19 eligible participants, upon determination of their eligibility for
20 SNAP benefits, of the availability of **【demonstration】** project
21 services; and assist the county welfare agencies with identifying
22 those eligible participants for whom participation in the partnering
23 provider's NJ SNAP ETP activities would be most applicable and
24 appropriate.

25 c. A partnering provider shall serve all eligible participants
26 residing within the provider's service area who elect to participate
27 in the provider's **【demonstration】** project activities. Except as
28 provided in this section, a partnering provider shall not deny or
29 terminate the participation of any **【demonstration】** project
30 participant.

31 d. Mandatory SNAP ETP participants may elect, for the purpose
32 of fulfilling their SNAP employment and training requirements, to
33 participate in a partnering provider's **【demonstration】** project
34 activities. The participation of a mandatory SNAP ETP participant
35 in a partnering provider's **【demonstration】** project activities shall
36 constitute placement in an NJ SNAP ETP component and shall
37 fulfill SNAP employment and training requirements for the duration
38 of the mandatory SNAP ETP participant's participation. A county
39 welfare agency shall assign a mandatory SNAP ETP participant
40 who does not elect to participate in any **【demonstration】** project
41 activities to another NJ SNAP ETP component outside of the
42 **【demonstration】** project, as available.

43 e. Mandatory SNAP ETP participants who elect to participate in
44 **【demonstration】** project activities but who subsequently do not
45 cooperate with, or participate in, those activities shall not be subject
46 to penalties for noncompliance with SNAP employment and
47 training requirements during their participation in the

1 **【demonstration】** project. Partnering providers shall terminate the
2 **【demonstration】** project participation of any non-cooperating or
3 non-participating mandatory SNAP ETP participants and refer the
4 non-cooperating or non-participating mandatory SNAP ETP
5 participants to the applicable county welfare agency. The applicable
6 county welfare agency shall assign the non-cooperating or non-
7 participating mandatory SNAP ETP participant to another NJ SNAP
8 ETP component outside of the **【demonstration】** project, as
9 available.

10 f. Nothing in **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.)
11 shall be construed to limit the authority of the county welfare
12 agencies or the department to impose penalties for noncompliance
13 with SNAP employment and training requirements on mandatory
14 SNAP ETP participants who: are terminated from participation in
15 **【demonstration】** project activities due to non-cooperation or non-
16 participation; and subsequently refuse or fail to comply with SNAP
17 employment and training requirements upon placement within
18 another NJ SNAP ETP component outside of the **【demonstration】**
19 project.

20 g. A partnering provider may deny or terminate the participation
21 of any **【demonstration】** project participant who is not appropriately
22 matched to the partnering provider's **【demonstration】** project
23 activities upon obtaining approval from the applicable county
24 welfare agency.
25 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.5)

26
27 6. Section 6 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-100) is amended to read
28 as follows:

29 6. a. Each partnering provider shall be required to perform the
30 following programmatic functions and to maintain sufficient
31 capacity to perform these functions effectively:

32 (1) assist **【demonstration】** project participants with obtaining
33 and retaining employment;

34 (2) provide **【demonstration】** project participants with
35 appropriate NJ SNAP ETP services and participant reimbursements
36 that fulfill the purposes of NJ SNAP ETP and that qualify for
37 federal SNAP ETP reimbursements. These services and participant
38 reimbursements may include, but are not limited to: job search and
39 placement services; job readiness assistance; education or training
40 that improves basic skills and general employability; specific job
41 skills training or vocational education; work experience that
42 improves the employability of **【demonstration】** project participants;
43 subsidized employment; workfare; self-employment training;
44 services related to the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998,
45 Pub.L.105-220 (29 U.S.C. s.2801 et seq.); job retention services; or
46 reimbursements for **【demonstration】** project participant expenses,
47 including dependent care costs, transportation expenses, books or

- 1 training manuals, fees, uniforms, equipment and tools required for
2 employment, or personal safety items required for program
3 participation;
- 4 (3) assess and place **【demonstration】** project participants into
5 appropriate NJ SNAP ETP services, as defined in paragraph (2) of
6 this subsection;
- 7 (4) provide **【demonstration】** project participants with support
8 services, including case management, early intervention, career
9 counseling, and referrals to additional programs and services;
- 10 (5) verify whether potential **【demonstration】** project
11 participants are receiving SNAP benefits and make referrals, as
12 appropriate, to assist potential **【demonstration】** project participants
13 with applying for SNAP benefits;
- 14 (6) collaborate with county welfare agencies to develop
15 processes and materials that: inform eligible participants regarding
16 **【demonstration】** project activities within each county, in
17 accordance with each partnering provider's service area; facilitate
18 eligible participants' communications with partnering providers
19 regarding participation in **【demonstration】** project activities; and
20 assist eligible participants with rendering decisions regarding their
21 participation in **【demonstration】** project activities;
- 22 (7) assist **【demonstration】** project participants with continuing
23 to meet administrative requirements, work requirements,
24 employment and training requirements, and other requirements for
25 maintaining SNAP eligibility;
- 26 (8) coordinate with the department and county welfare agencies
27 on a monthly basis to verify that **【demonstration】** project
28 participants are receiving SNAP benefits and are not receiving
29 Work First New Jersey TANF benefits;
- 30 (9) coordinate with the county welfare agencies and the
31 department to distinguish mandatory SNAP ETP participants from
32 voluntary SNAP ETP participants;
- 33 (10) provide uninterrupted NJ SNAP ETP services and
34 participant reimbursements to mandatory SNAP ETP participants
35 electing to participate in the **【demonstration】** project who become
36 voluntary SNAP ETP participants and to voluntary SNAP ETP
37 participants electing to participate in the **【demonstration】** project
38 who become mandatory SNAP ETP participants, subject to the
39 provisions for terminating **【demonstration】** project participation
40 pursuant to section 5 of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-99);
- 41 (11) maintain program records and report to the department the
42 following monthly information for each claimed NJ SNAP ETP
43 participant: program, participant name, participant Social Security
44 number, services and reimbursements received, and weekly hours;
- 45 (12) prepare and submit to the department invoice and
46 certification letters each quarter for the total non-federal resources

1 and program expenditures qualifying for federal SNAP ETP
2 reimbursements for the quarter;

3 (13) monitor **【demonstration】** project participants and
4 subcontractors and provide detailed reports of participants,
5 activities, and outcomes to the department on a regular basis;

6 (14) devote sufficient staff time and expertise to fulfill NJ
7 SNAP ETP administrative and reporting requirements;

8 (15) collaborate with the department to ensure that federal
9 SNAP ETP reimbursements received under the **【demonstration】**
10 program are expended in accordance with all applicable federal
11 laws and regulations; and

12 (16) report to the department and county welfare agencies on a
13 monthly basis the identities of any mandatory SNAP ETP
14 participants who are not cooperating with, or participating in,
15 assigned services or work, as applicable to mandatory SNAP ETP
16 participants who elect to participate in the **【demonstration】** project.

17 b. Each partnering provider shall be required to perform the
18 following financial functions and to maintain sufficient capacity to
19 perform the functions effectively:

20 (1) maintain cash flow necessary to manage the delay from
21 program outlays to SNAP ETP reimbursements;

22 (2) manage federal grants, track expenditures, and ensure that
23 non-federal resources and program expenditures qualify for federal
24 SNAP ETP reimbursements;

25 (3) perform cost allocation using multiple funds;

26 (4) track staff time devoted to NJ SNAP ETP activities under
27 this **【demonstration】** project; and

28 (5) maintain records for State audits.

29 c. Partnering providers may establish agreements with
30 subcontracting organizations to support their NJ SNAP ETP
31 activities under this **【demonstration】** project.

32 d. The department shall consider educational activities serving
33 eligible participants at community colleges as qualifying for federal
34 SNAP ETP reimbursements to the greatest extent allowable under
35 federal laws and regulations. In accordance with section 273.5 of
36 title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, individuals enrolled at least
37 half-time in an institution of higher education who are assigned to,
38 or placed in, an NJ SNAP ETP educational activity, including
39 individuals who voluntarily participate in NJ SNAP ETP activities
40 or who otherwise make self-initiated placements, and who meet all
41 SNAP eligibility requirements shall be determined eligible for
42 SNAP benefits and shall be eligible for participation in the
43 **【demonstration】** project.

44 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.6)

45

46 7. Section 7 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-101) is amended to read
47 as follows:

- 1 7. a. The county welfare agencies, under the oversight of the
2 department, shall assist partnering providers by:
- 3 (1) collaborating with partnering providers, the department, and
4 the Department of Labor and Workforce Development to conduct
5 outreach to potential **【demonstration】** project participants and to
6 refer potential **【demonstration】** project participants to the
7 partnering providers;
- 8 (2) collaborating with partnering providers to develop processes
9 and materials that inform eligible participants regarding: the
10 availability of **【demonstration】** project activities within each
11 county, in accordance with each partnering provider's service area;
12 the option for eligible participants to participate in **【demonstration】**
13 project activities; the applicability and appropriateness of specific
14 **【demonstration】** activities to the eligible participant's case; and the
15 means by which eligible participants may contact partnering
16 providers regarding **【demonstration】** project participation;
- 17 (3) determining potential **【demonstration】** project participants'
18 SNAP eligibility and providing the results of eligibility
19 determinations to partnering providers;
- 20 (4) developing and implementing a process to verify that
21 potential **【demonstration】** project participants are receiving SNAP
22 benefits and not receiving Work First New Jersey TANF benefits
23 and ensuring that this verification process adheres to all applicable
24 federal laws and regulations restricting the unauthorized disclosure
25 of information concerning applicants for, and recipients of, SNAP
26 or TANF benefits;
- 27 (5) determining each potential **【demonstration】** project
28 participant's status as a voluntary SNAP ETP participant or a
29 mandatory SNAP ETP participant, in coordination with partnering
30 providers;
- 31 (6) confirming each **【demonstration】** project participant's SNAP
32 eligibility on a monthly basis; and
- 33 (7) collaborating with partnering providers to develop criteria
34 and procedures for terminating the participation of eligible
35 participants in a partnering provider's **【demonstration】** project
36 activities including, but not limited to: eligible participants who are
37 not appropriately matched to a partnering provider's
38 **【demonstration】** project activities; and any mandatory SNAP ETP
39 participants who are not cooperating with, or participating in,
40 assigned services or work, as applicable to mandatory SNAP ETP
41 participants who elect to participate in the **【demonstration】** project.
- 42 b. The department shall, in consultation with the county welfare
43 agencies and the Department of Labor and Workforce
44 Development:
- 45 (1) assist partnering providers with understanding the
46 administrative requirements, work requirements, employment and

- 1 training requirements, and other requirements for **【demonstration】**
2 project participants to maintain SNAP eligibility;
- 3 (2) assist partnering providers with understanding the
4 requirements for non-federal resources and program expenditures to
5 generate federal SNAP ETP reimbursements;
- 6 (3) submit requests for federal SNAP ETP reimbursements and
7 fulfill all reporting and other SNAP ETP administrative
8 responsibilities required by the Food and Nutrition Service in the
9 United States Department of Agriculture;
- 10 (4) distribute federal SNAP ETP reimbursements received by
11 the State under this **【demonstration】** project to the partnering
12 providers whose non-federal resources and program expenditures
13 generated the federal reimbursements, in accordance with the
14 provisions of section 8 of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-102);
- 15 (5) collect data concerning partnering providers and
16 **【demonstration】** project participants, activities, and outcomes; and
- 17 (6) audit partnering providers on a routine basis to ensure fiscal
18 and program integrity.
19 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.7)

20
21 8. Section 8 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-102) is amended to read
22 as follows:

23 8. a. The department shall submit a revised State Employment
24 and Training Plan to the Food and Nutrition Service in the United
25 States Department of Agriculture, in accordance with section 273.7
26 (c) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, in order to expand NJ
27 SNAP ETP to include **【demonstration】** project partnerships with
28 qualifying agencies. The revised State Employment and Training
29 Plan shall define the services to be provided under NJ SNAP ETP,
30 including, but not limited to, the **【demonstration】** project services
31 provided pursuant to **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.).
32 The department shall submit the revised State Employment and
33 Training Plan to the Food and Nutrition Service as soon as
34 practicable but no later than the first day of the seventh month next
35 following the effective date of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-
36 95 et seq.).

37 b. The commissioner shall take such additional steps as may be
38 necessary to secure approval from the Food and Nutrition Service in
39 the United States Department of Agriculture for this
40 **【demonstration】** project and to ensure that the State and partnering
41 providers are in compliance with all applicable provisions of federal
42 and State laws and regulations.

43 c. The department may reserve up to five percent of the federal
44 SNAP ETP reimbursements generated as a direct result of the
45 activities of the partnering providers and received by the State
46 pursuant to **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.) for
47 operating expenses and staff directly related to the administration,

1 oversight, and evaluation of this **【demonstration】** project. The
2 remaining federal SNAP ETP reimbursements generated as a direct
3 result of the activities of the partnering providers and received by
4 the State pursuant to **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.)
5 shall be distributed to the partnering providers whose expenditures
6 generated the federal SNAP ETP reimbursements on a pro-rata
7 basis and in accordance with the performance-based system for
8 distributing federal SNAP ETP reimbursements established
9 pursuant to section 4 of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98).
10 Within the request for proposals issued pursuant to **【this act】**
11 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.), the department shall describe
12 the performance-based system for distributing federal SNAP ETP
13 reimbursements and indicate the net percentage of federal SNAP
14 ETP reimbursements that shall be distributed to partnering
15 providers.

16 d. The department shall apply for any additional federal funds
17 which may be available to implement the provisions of **【this act】**
18 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.), including, but not limited to,
19 any unobligated, unexpended federal SNAP ETP funds originally
20 allocated to other state agencies and available for reallocation
21 pursuant to section 273.7 (d) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations.

22 e. The commissioner may solicit, receive, and accept grants,
23 funds, or anything of value from any public or private entity and
24 receive and accept contributions of money, property, labor, or any
25 other thing of value from any legitimate source to support the
26 **【demonstration】** project, provided that the commissioner does not
27 have reason to believe that the entity may have a vested interest in
28 the decisions of the commissioner or the department concerning the
29 selection of specific partnering providers.

30 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.8)

31

32 9. Section 9 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-103) is amended to read
33 as follows:

34 9. The commissioner shall issue a report no later than six
35 months following the effective date of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45
36 (C.44:10-95 et seq.), and annually thereafter no later than
37 September 30 of each year, to the Governor and, pursuant to section
38 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature summarizing
39 the participants, activities, and outcomes of the **【demonstration】**
40 project. The initial report under this section shall include, but not
41 be limited to, a summary of the request for proposals issued
42 pursuant to section 4 of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98).
43 Subsequent reports under this section shall include, but not be
44 limited to, the identities of the partnering providers selected
45 pursuant to section 4 of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98) and
46 a summary of **【demonstration】** project participant demographics,
47 activities, and outcomes for each partnering provider. The reports

1 issued pursuant to this section shall not disclose the identities of
2 any SNAP applicants or recipients and shall adhere to all applicable
3 federal laws and regulations restricting the unauthorized disclosure
4 of information concerning applicants for, and recipients of, SNAP
5 benefits.

6 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.9)

7

8 10. This act shall take effect immediately.

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10

11

STATEMENT

12

13 This bill makes the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
14 Employment and Training Provider Demonstration Project
15 permanent, and renames the program to recognize that it would no
16 longer be a demonstration program.

17 The SNAP ETP Provider Demonstration Project was enacted into
18 law in 2013, and began operation in 2014. The project is intended
19 to allow SNAP participants to obtain job training and develop the
20 necessary skills to find and keep regular employment. As of early
21 2018, the program provides grants to two entities: Blessed
22 Ministries, Inc. and YouthBuild Newark, Inc. The authorizing
23 statute specifies that the demonstration project is to run for four
24 years, and so these contracts are set to expire in August 2018. This
25 bill would allow the agencies currently participating in the program,
26 as well as new agencies, to apply to provide job and skills training
27 services to SNAP participants in the future.