

[Second Reprint]

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 175

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 29, 2018

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman NICHOLAS CHIARAVALLOTTI

District 31 (Hudson)

Assemblyman WILLIAM W. SPEARMAN

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

Assemblywoman GABRIELA M. MOSQUERA

District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)

Senator PATRICK J. DIEGNAN, JR.

District 18 (Middlesex)

Senator TROY SINGLETON

District 7 (Burlington)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Benson, Assemblywoman Vainieri Huttler, Assemblymen DeAngelo, Verrelli, Assemblywoman Murphy, Assemblyman Conaway, Assemblywomen McKnight, Downey, Assemblyman Coughlin, Senators T.Kean, Madden, Cunningham, Pou and Ruiz

SYNOPSIS

Urges Chief Innovation Officer to prioritize enhancement of NJOneApp to include all State anti-hunger programs.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee on January 31, 2019, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/22/2019)

- 1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** urging the Chief Innovation Officer of New
2 Jersey to prioritize the enhancement of the NJOneApp to include
3 all State anti-hunger programs.
4
- 5 **WHEREAS**, The NJOneApp is operated by the Department of Human
6 Services as a consolidated website for individuals to see if they
7 qualify for certain health and social services and to apply for those
8 assistance programs; and
- 9 **WHEREAS**, Currently, the NJOneApp allows New Jersey residents
10 to apply for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
11 (SNAP), Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), and
12 General Assistance through Work First New Jersey; and
- 13 **WHEREAS**, Improving the NJOneApp to include all State anti-
14 hunger programs, in addition to the other programs currently
15 available on the website, would provide a streamlined way by
16 which disadvantaged individuals can address their food
17 insecurity needs as well as their overall health and social service
18 needs; and
- 19 **WHEREAS**, Such an enhancement would also help individuals and
20 households access assistance programs that they otherwise may
21 not have known they were eligible for; and
- 22 **WHEREAS**, In August 2018, the State’s first Chief Innovation
23 Officer was appointed to, among several other things, improve
24 the lives of New Jersey residents by designing and deploying
25 more effective government services; and
- 26 **WHEREAS**, Enhancing the NJOneApp to include all anti-hunger
27 programs aligns with the responsibilities and goals of the Chief
28 Innovation Officer and such action would help streamline State
29 government assistance services, improving the lives of many of
30 the most vulnerable in this State; and
- 31 **WHEREAS**, According to Feeding America’s report entitled “Map
32 the Meal Gap 2018²”, **thus**² over 10 percent of New Jersey
33 residents² and 13.5 percent of children in the State under the
34 age of 18² are food insecure, meaning those residents do not
35 have an adequate, consistent supply of food; and
- 36 **WHEREAS**, It is important and in the best interests of the State to
37 prioritize better access to anti-hunger programs and streamline
38 screening and application services through the NJOneApp so that
39 more qualifying residents can receive the food assistance and
40 other government support they urgently need; and
- 41 **WHEREAS**, All State anti-hunger programs administered by the
42 Department of Agriculture, Department of Health, or Department of
43 Human Services, that provide needy or vulnerable populations

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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly AHU committee amendments adopted December 3, 2018.

²Senate SHH committee amendments adopted January 31, 2019.

1 greater access to food, should be made available within the
2 NJOneApp; now, therefore,

3

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

6

7 1. ¹~~【This resolution urges the】~~ The¹ Chief Innovation Officer
8 of New Jersey ¹is respectfully urged¹ to prioritize the enhancement
9 of the NJOneApp to include all State anti-hunger programs so that
10 residents of this State can more effectively be screened and apply
11 for these anti-hunger programs, in addition to the other government
12 assistance programs ¹~~【that can currently be applied for】~~¹ through
13 the NJOneApp.

14

15 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
16 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly ²and the
17 Secretary of the Senate² to the Chief Innovation Officer of New
18 Jersey.

19

20 3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.