

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 3941

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 10, 2021

Sponsored by:

Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE

District 19 (Middlesex)

Senator VIN GOPAL

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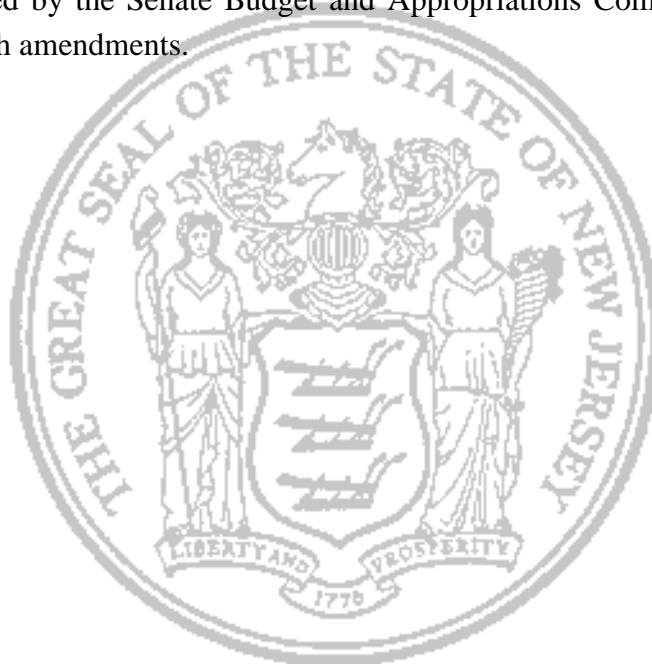
Senators Ruiz and Turner

SYNOPSIS

Directs DHS to develop mobile software program for SNAP recipients; appropriates \$2 million.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on June 17, 2021, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/24/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning a mobile software program for New Jersey
 2 Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program recipients
 3 ¹**[and]**,¹ supplementing Title 44 of the Revised Statutes¹, and
 4 making an appropriation¹.

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

8
 9 1. As used in this act:

10 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Human Services.

11 "Electronic benefit transfer card or benefit card" means a benefit
 12 card utilized by a consumer to gain access to nutrition assistance
 13 program benefits.

14 ¹**[Mobile]** Mobile-friendly¹ software ¹**[program]**¹ means a
 15 computer program or ¹web-based¹ software application designed to be
 16 ¹**[downloaded onto and]**¹ used in conjunction with a mobile electronic
 17 communication device, as defined herein, and available through
 18 multiple software platforms.

19 "Mobile electronic communication device" means any mobile
 20 device capable of communication or other transmission of information
 21 and includes, but is not limited to, a cellular telephone, wireless tablet,
 22 or other device with Internet capability, or other wireless
 23 communication device.

24 "Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program" or "SNAP" means
 25 the supplemental nutrition assistance program, established pursuant to
 26 the federal "Food and Nutrition Act of 2008," ¹**[Pub.L.88-525]** as
 27 Pub.L.110-246¹ (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.).

28
 29 2. a. The Department of Human Services shall develop and
 30 maintain, or enter into or modify an agreement with a third party to
 31 develop and maintain¹**[, a mobile]** mobile-friendly¹ software
 32 ¹**[program]**¹ for SNAP recipients. The ¹**[mobile]** mobile-friendly¹
 33 software ¹**[program]**¹ shall include, but not be limited to, functionality
 34 that allows a user of the mobile software program who is recipient of
 35 SNAP benefits to:

36 (1) view the user's SNAP case status and the current benefits the
 37 user receives;

38 (2) ¹**[view the current balance on the user's electronic benefit**
 39 **transfer card;**

40 (3)¹ request an electronic benefit transfer card or a replacement
 41 card ¹**[and track the card's expected time of arrival by mail;**

42 (4)¹ (3)¹ upload and submit required documents for continued
 43 participation in SNAP and track the current processing status of those
 44 documents;

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:

¹Senate SBA committee amendments adopted June 17, 2021.

1 ¹[(5)] (4)¹ receive ¹[alerts for upcoming SNAP appointments
2 and] notices and updates regarding¹ important deadlines or actions;
3 ¹[(6)] (5)¹ read and print notices and letters;
4 ¹[(7)] (6)¹ update contact information;
5 ¹[(8)] (7)¹ request to have a letter mailed to the user listing the
6 amount of benefits the user receives; ¹[and
7 (9)] (8)¹ view local contact information for the County Board of
8 Social Services for the county in which the user resides¹; and
9 (9) access any other functionalities as determined by the
10 department¹.
11 b. The ¹[mobile] mobile-friendly¹ software ¹[program]¹ shall be
12 made available free of charge and in multiple languages.
13
14 3. The commissioner shall apply for any:
15 a. waivers from the federal government, which are necessary for
16 the approval and implementation of this act; and
17 b. grants through the SNAP Process and Technology
18 Improvement Grants program within the United States Department
19 of Agriculture to receive federal funding to implement the
20 provisions of this act.
21
22 4. The Commissioner of Human Services, pursuant to the
23 “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
24 seq.), shall promulgate rules and regulations ¹as may be necessary¹
25 to effectuate the provisions of this act.
26
27 ¹5. There is appropriated \$2,000,000 from the General Fund to
28 the Department of Human Services to fund the development and
29 maintenance of the mobile friendly software required pursuant to
30 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).¹
31
32 ¹[5.] 6.¹ This act shall take effect immediately.