

ASSEMBLY, No. 2868

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MAY 1, 1997

By Assemblymen ASSELTA and GIBSON

1 AN ACT concerning the Home Delivered Meals Expansion Program
2 and amending P.L.1987, c.133.

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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. Section 1 of P.L.1987, c.133 (C.52:27D-29.17) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 1. As used in this act:

10 a. "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the Department of
11 **[Community Affairs] Health and Senior Services**.

12 b. "Department" means the Department of **[Community Affairs]**
13 **Health and Senior Services**.

14 c. "Eligible participant" means a resident of this State who is 60
15 years of age or older and homebound by reason of illness,
16 incapacitating disability or is otherwise isolated.

17 d. "Home delivered nutrition services" means home delivered meals
18 as defined by the "Older Americans Act of 1965," Pub.L. 89-73
19 (42 U.S.C. § 3001 et seq.).

20 e. "Program" means the Home Delivered Meals Expansion
21 Program in the **[Division on Aging, in the] Department of [Community**
22 **Affairs] Health and Senior Services**.

23 (cf: P.L.1987, c.133, s.1)

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25 2. Section 2 of P.L.1987, c.133 (C.52:27D-29.18) is amended to
26 read as follows:

27 2. The commissioner shall establish a Home Delivered Meals
28 Expansion Program in the **[Division of Aging, in the] Department of**
29 **[Community Affairs] Health and Senior Services**, to provide home
30 delivered nutrition services to eligible participants on weekdays,
31 weekends and holidays.

32 (cf: P.L.1987, c.133, s.2)

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34 3. Section 6 of P.L.1987, c.133 (C.52:27D-29.22) is amended to

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 read as follows:

2 6. a. There is appropriated [~~\$1,000,000.00~~] \$1,000,000 from the
3 Casino Revenue Fund to the Department of ~~[Community Affairs]~~
4 Health and Senior Services to effectuate the purposes of this act.

5 b. The department shall allocate not less than 95% of the funds
6 appropriated for the purposes of this act to the county offices on
7 aging, and these funds shall be disbursed to the county offices on aging
8 according to the formula used to disburse funds for the home delivered
9 nutrition services provided under Title III of the "Older Americans Act
10 of 1965," Pub.L. 89-73 (42 U.S.C. § 3001 et seq.).

11 c. The county shall match the State funds allocated to a county
12 office on aging for this program with an amount equal to 20% of the
13 State funds. The county share may be cash or in kind.

14 (cf: P.L.1987, c.133, s.6)

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16 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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21 This bill amends the Home Delivered Meals Expansion Program,
22 P.L.1987, c.133 (C.52:27D-29.17 et seq.) to allow for additional
23 weekday meals to be provided under the program. Currently, the
24 federal Older Americans Act provides funding, with a State match, for
25 the weekday Meals on Wheels program. The Home Delivered Meals
26 Expansion Program is a State funded program to provide meals for
27 eligible senior citizens and disabled persons on weekends and holidays.

28 Several counties do not have adequate funding for the Meals on
29 Wheels program and have waiting lists for weekday meals. This bill
30 will allow these counties the flexibility to utilize the Home Delivered
31 Meals Expansion Program for weekday meals for eligible senior
32 citizens and disabled persons who have not been able to participate in
33 the program.

34 The bill also makes technical changes which reflect the transfer of
35 the Division on Aging from the Department of Community Affairs to
36 the Department of Health and Senior Services.

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41 Expands the Home Delivered Meals Expansion Program to include
42 weekday meals.