44:10-95 et seq. LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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				Comp				
LAWS OF:	2019	С	HAPTE	R:	253			
NJSA:	44:10-95 et seq. (Makes Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training Provider Demonstration Project permanent and renames program.)						loyment and Training Provider	
BILL NO:	S1948	(5	Substitut	ted for	A3647)			
SPONSOR(S)	Joseph	n F. Vitale a	nd othei	rs				
DATE INTROD	UCED:	2/22/2018	3					
COMMITTEE:		ASSEMB		Budget Human	: Services			
		SENATE:			Human Service	s & Senior Citizer s	ns	
AMENDED DU	RING P	ASSAGE:	١	Yes				
DATE OF PAS	SAGE:	A	SSEME	BLY:	6/27/2019			
		S	ENATE	:	3/25/2019			
DATE OF APPROVAL: 8/23/20			/23/2019	9				
	ARE ATT	FACHED IF		ABLE:	:			
FINAL	ΤΕΧΤ Ο	FBILL (Fire	rst Repri	int ena	cted)		Yes	
S1948 SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 14 of introduced bill) Yes								
	СОММ	IITTEE STA		NT:		ASSEMBLY:	Yes	Budget
						SENATE:	Yes	Budget & Appropriations Health, Human Services & Senior Citizens
(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, <i>may possibly</i> be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)								
FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:					No			
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:				ATE:		Yes		
A3647								
SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 14 of introduced bill) Yes								
	СОММ	IITTEE STA	ATEMEN	NT:		ASSEMBLY:	Yes	Budget Human Services

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:	Yes
VETO MESSAGE:	No
GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:	Yes
FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED: To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext.103 or <u>mailto:refdesk</u>	@njstatelib.org
REPORTS:	No
HEARINGS:	No
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:	No

RWH/CL

P.L. 2019, CHAPTER 253, approved August 23, 2019 Senate, No. 1948 (First Reprint)

AN ACT concerning the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program 1 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: 1. [This act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.) shall be known 10 and may be cited as the "New Jersey SNAP Employment and 11 Training Provider [Demonstration] ¹<u>50/50 Match</u>¹ Project Act." 12 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.1) 13 14 15 2. Section 2 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-96) is amended to read as follows: 16 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. means 19 ["Demonstration project participant" 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. "Eligible participant" means a SNAP recipient who qualifies for 23 participation in NJ SNAP ETP as a voluntary SNAP ETP 24 25 participant or as a mandatory SNAP ETP participant. "Mandatory SNAP ETP participant" means a participant in NJ 26 27 SNAP ETP who, as a condition of receiving SNAP benefits: is required to register for work; is required to fulfill SNAP 28 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 Employment and Training Provider [Demonstration] 150/5032 <u>Match¹</u> Project" or "[demonstration] project" means the 33 [demonstration] project established pursuant to [this act] 34 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.). 35 36 "NJ SNAP ETP" means the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition 37 Assistance Program Employment and Training Program that assists SNAP recipients with acquiring the skills, training, work, or 38 39 experience necessary to obtain regular employment, as established 40 under the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and as described in the most recent State Employment and Training 41

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 <u>thus</u> is new matter. Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows: ¹Senate SBA committee amendments adopted March 18, 2019.

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1 Plan submitted to the Food and Nutrition Service in the United 2 States Department of Agriculture. "Non-federal resources" means any of the following resources, 3 provided that the resources are not from a federal source or used as 4 5 a match for other federal funding purposes: 6 (1) cash donations from private firms, charitable foundations, or 7 non-profit organizations received by partnering providers; 8 (2) local tax levy funds received by partnering providers; 9 (3) certain eligible in-kind contributions received by partnering 10 providers that are public entities, including property or services which support the provider's NJ SNAP ETP activities and which are 11 12 contributed by non-federal public entities without charge to the 13 partnering provider; or 14 (4) any other non-federal resources that are currently allowed by 15 the federal government. 16 "Partnering provider" means a qualifying agency selected to 17 participate in the [demonstration] project. 18 "Project participant" means an eligible participant who elects to 19 participate in the project established pursuant to P.L.2013, c.45 20 (C.44:10-95 et seq.). 21 "Qualifying agency" means a local government, non-profit 22 entity, institution of higher education, foundation, or other eligible 23 community-based organization that qualifies for allowable federal 24 SNAP ETP reimbursements pursuant to the federal "Food and 25 Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.) by 26 providing allowable services that help SNAP recipients acquire the 27 skills, training, work, or experience necessary to obtain regular 28 employment. A qualifying agency may also include a consortium 29 of organizations. 30 "Service area" means the geographic area of the State in which a 31 partnering provider provides NJ SNAP ETP services under the [demonstration] project established pursuant to [this act] 32 33 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.). 34 "SNAP" means the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition 35 Assistance Program, established pursuant to the federal "Food and Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.). 36 37 "SNAP ETP" means the federal Supplemental Nutrition 38 Program Employment and Training Assistance Program 39 administered by the Food and Nutrition Service in the United States 40 Department of Agriculture and established pursuant to the federal 41 "Food and Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 42 et seq.) and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto. "Voluntary SNAP ETP participant" means a participant in NJ 43 44 SNAP ETP who: is exempt from the work registration and 45 employment and training requirements associated with receiving 46 SNAP benefits; or who is not exempt from work registration but 47 who has been exempted from SNAP employment and training 48 requirements or otherwise exempted from placement in an NJ 49 SNAP ETP component.

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1 "Work First New Jersey TANF benefits" means Temporary 2 Assistance for Needy Families benefits provided under the Work 3 First New Jersey program established pursuant to P.L.1997, c.38 4 (C.44:10-55 et seq.) in accordance with the federal "Personal 5 Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996," Pub.L.104-193 (42 U.S.C. s.601 et seq.). 6 7 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.2) 8 9 3. Section 3 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-97) is amended to read 10 as follows: 3. a. The Department of Human Services shall establish the 11 12 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance New Jersey Program Employment and Training Provider [Demonstration] 150/5013 <u>Match¹</u> Project under which the department shall $\frac{1}{2}$ (1) provide and 14 15 enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Department of 16 Labor and Workforce Development by which the Department of 17 Labor and Workforce Development shall implement, administer, 18 and operate the project and NJ SNAP ETP activities including, 19 issuing requests for proposals, selecting partnering providers, 20 obtaining activity reports from providers, and issuing payment to providers; and (2)¹ form partnerships with qualifying agencies to 21 provide services to eligible participants under NJ SNAP ETP and 22 23 receive federal reimbursements for those services. ¹[The 24 department shall consult with the Department of Labor and 25 Workforce Development and the county welfare agencies with 26 respect to the establishment and oversight of the [demonstration] 27 project.] The memorandum of understanding executed by the 28 departments shall define how the departments shall coordinate their 29 efforts, the roles and expectations of each, and shall detail the 30 process by which funds for the support of the project and other NJ 31 SNAP ETP activities shall be transferred from the department to the 32 Department of Labor and Workforce Development.¹ 33 b. Applicants for participation as partnering providers in the 34 [demonstration] project shall be qualifying agencies whose 35 employment and training activities qualify for reimbursement under the federal SNAP ETP program. Partnering providers in the 36 37 [demonstration] project shall be selected according to the process 38 and criteria specified in [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-39 <u>95 et seq.)</u>. 40 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.3) 41 4. Section 4 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98) is amended to read 42 43 as follows: 44 4. a. The commissioner shall issue a request for proposals from 45 qualifying agencies to participate in the [demonstration] project no later than 60 days following the effective date of [this act] 46 47 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.).

1 b. (1) The department shall select no fewer than three 2 partnering providers, from among qualifying agencies submitting 3 proposals, to participate in the [demonstration] project ¹[for [a] an initial period of four years]¹. Partnering providers shall provide 4 5 services under NJ SNAP ETP to eligible participants and be eligible 6 to receive federal reimbursements for those services pursuant to the 7 conditions of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.).

8 (2) ¹[Subject to the availability of federal funds, the commissioner] The Commissioner of Labor and Workforce 9 Development¹ shall extend the program beyond the initial four year 10 period. The ¹[commissioner] Commissioner of Labor and 11 12 Workforce Development¹ shall ¹, subject to the availability of federal funds, annually¹ issue a new request for proposals and 13 ¹[shall select] maintain the participation of ¹ no fewer than three 14 partnering providers, from among qualifying agencies submitting 15 16 proposals, to participate in the project for each subsequent 17 ¹[<u>contract period</u>] <u>year</u>¹.

18 c. Each qualifying agency shall be evaluated for participation as 19 a partnering provider in the [demonstration] project based on the 20 agency's capacity to: serve eligible participants under NJ SNAP 21 ETP; identify and utilize non-federal resources qualifying for 22 federal SNAP ETP reimbursements pursuant to the federal "Food and Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et 23 24 seq.); present and implement a coherent program plan for NJ SNAP 25 ETP activities, as described in subsection d. of this section; and 26 perform effectively each of the functions specified in section 6 of 27 [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-100).

28 d. Each qualifying agency's proposal shall include a program 29 plan describing how the agency's activities under the [demonstration] project would fulfill the purposes of NJ SNAP 30 31 ETP. The program plan shall include, but not be limited to, the 32 following information:

33 (1) the program goals and objectives, including the agency's 34 priorities for serving eligible participants in the State;

35 (2) the program design, including: strategies for targeting and 36 recruiting eligible participants; educational skills and training activities; work-related activities; job preparation, placement, and 37 38 retention activities; strategies for coordinating with the county 39 welfare agencies and the Department of Labor and Workforce 40 Development; and strategies for providing support services, 41 including case management, early intervention, career counseling, 42 and referrals to additional programs and services;

43 (3) the program budget, including the overall resources to be 44 used to support the agency's NJ SNAP ETP activities, the specific 45 non-federal resources to be used to generate federal SNAP ETP 46 reimbursements, and the intended utilization of anticipated federal 47 SNAP ETP reimbursements;

1 (4) the extent to which community partners, including 2 subcontractors, will be involved in the agency's activities; and

3 (5) the agency's plans for performing each of the functions
4 specified in section 6 of [this act] <u>P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-100).</u>

e. In selecting partnering providers for participation in the
[demonstration] project, the ¹[department] <u>Department of Labor</u>
<u>and Workforce Development</u>¹ shall prioritize partnering providers
that would:

9 (1) serve SNAP recipients with significant barriers to employment, including, but not limited to: able-bodied adults 10 11 without dependents required to participate in employment and 12 training programs as a condition of receiving SNAP benefits; 13 individuals with a history of substance abuse or other work 14 limitations; ex-offenders; individuals with low literacy or limited 15 English proficiency; veterans who are not eligible for other 16 employment and training programs; and persons who are 16 through 17 24 years of age;

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

(3) provide training in both vocational and technical skills, as
well as "soft skills," including, but not limited to: workplace
preparation training, teamwork, problem solving, time management,
and conflict resolution;

(4) provide training that results in marketable credentials and
that prepares participants for employment or reemployment in
industries with projections of growth ¹[, as the department
identifies those industries in collaboration with the Department of
Labor and Workforce Development]¹;

(5) conduct job development activities and identify how job
opportunities will be secured to maximize SNAP recipients'
permanent placement in employment providing compensation at the
level of a living wage and opportunities for wage progression; and

34 (6) demonstrate a proven history of successful job placement35 and retention.

f. The ¹[department] <u>Department of Labor and Workforce</u>
<u>Development</u>¹ may select partnering providers that would provide
NJ SNAP ETP services within any service area including, but not
limited to: the entire State; one or more regions encompassing
several counties; or a single county.

g. Upon selection of a partnering provider, the ¹[department] 41 Department of Labor and Workforce Development¹ shall negotiate 42 43 and execute a memorandum of understanding with the partnering provider, the ¹[Department of Labor and Workforce Development] 44 department¹, and county welfare agencies, as applicable. 45 The memorandum of understanding shall define the extent and degree of 46 47 assistance ¹and delineate the respective expectations, duties, and relations¹ among the department, the Department of Labor and 48

1 Workforce Development, the county welfare agencies, and the 2 partnering provider. h. The ¹[commissioner] <u>Commissioner of Labor and Workforce</u> 3 Development¹ shall establish standards of performance for 4 5 partnering providers conducting [demonstration] project activities pursuant to [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.), 6 7 including, but not limited to, standards for performing the 8 programmatic functions and financial functions required pursuant to 9 section 6 of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-100). The 10 memorandum of understanding negotiated and executed pursuant to 11 subsection g. of this section shall include a performance-based 12 system for distributing federal SNAP ETP reimbursements to each 13 partnering provider based upon the partnering provider's 14 achievement of the standards of performance. 15 i. Upon finding that a partnering provider has not conducted its 16 [demonstration] project activities in accordance with the standards 17 of performance established in subsection h. of this section or that a 18 partnering provider has otherwise failed to comply with the requirements of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.), the 19 ¹[commissioner] <u>Commissioner of Labor and Workforce</u> 20 <u>Development¹ may</u>: take such action as is necessary to correct the 21 22 deficiencies of the provider; and terminate the partnering provider's 23 participation in the [demonstration] project if the provider fails to 24 take remedial action. 25 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.4) 26 27 5. Section 5 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-99) is amended to read 28 as follows: 29 5. a. A county welfare agency shall collaborate with all 30 partnering providers whose service areas include the county to: 31 inform all eligible participants, upon determination of their eligibility for SNAP benefits, of all [demonstration] project 32 33 activities operating within the county; permit all eligible 34 participants to participate in any [demonstration] project activities 35 available within the county; and assist eligible participants with 36 contacting partnering providers operating [demonstration] project 37 activities. A county welfare agency may advise an eligible 38 participant as to the applicability and appropriateness of specific 39 [demonstration] activities to the eligible participant's case, but the 40 county welfare agency shall not assign an eligible participant to 41 [demonstration] project activities without the eligible participant's 42 consent. 43 b. A partnering provider shall collaborate with all county 44 welfare agencies within the provider's service area to: inform all 45 eligible participants, upon determination of their eligibility for SNAP benefits, of the availability of [demonstration] project 46

services; and assist the county welfare agencies with identifying

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those eligible participants for whom participation in the partnering
 provider's NJ SNAP ETP activities would be most applicable and
 appropriate.

c. A partnering provider shall serve all eligible participants
residing within the provider's service area who elect to participate
in the provider's [demonstration] project activities. Except as
provided in this section, a partnering provider shall not deny or
terminate the participation of any [demonstration] project
participant.

10 d. Mandatory SNAP ETP participants may elect, for the purpose 11 of fulfilling their SNAP employment and training requirements, to 12 participate in a partnering provider's [demonstration] project 13 activities. The participation of a mandatory SNAP ETP participant 14 in a partnering provider's [demonstration] project activities shall 15 constitute placement in an NJ SNAP ETP component and shall 16 fulfill SNAP employment and training requirements for the duration 17 of the mandatory SNAP ETP participant's participation. A county 18 welfare agency shall assign a mandatory SNAP ETP participant 19 who does not elect to participate in any [demonstration] project 20 activities to another NJ SNAP ETP component outside of the 21 [demonstration] project, as available.

22 e. Mandatory SNAP ETP participants who elect to participate in 23 [demonstration] project activities but who subsequently do not 24 cooperate with, or participate in, those activities shall not be subject 25 to penalties for noncompliance with SNAP employment and 26 training requirements during their participation in the [demonstration] project. Partnering providers shall terminate the 27 28 [demonstration] project participation of any non-cooperating or non-participating mandatory SNAP ETP participants and refer the 29 30 non-cooperating or non-participating mandatory SNAP ETP 31 participants to the applicable county welfare agency. The applicable 32 county welfare agency shall assign the non-cooperating or non-33 participating mandatory SNAP ETP participant to another NJ SNAP ETP component outside of the [demonstration] project, as 34 35 available.

36 f. Nothing in [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.) 37 shall be construed to limit the authority of the county welfare 38 agencies or the department to impose penalties for noncompliance 39 with SNAP employment and training requirements on mandatory 40 SNAP ETP participants who: are terminated from participation in 41 [demonstration] project activities due to non-cooperation or non-42 participation; and subsequently refuse or fail to comply with SNAP 43 employment and training requirements upon placement within 44 another NJ SNAP ETP component outside of the [demonstration] 45 project.

46 g. A partnering provider may deny or terminate the participation47 of any [demonstration] project participant who is not appropriately

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matched to the partnering provider's [demonstration] project 1 2 activities upon obtaining approval from the applicable county 3 welfare agency. 4 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.5) 5 6. Section 6 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-100) is amended to 6 7 read as follows: 8 6. a. Each partnering provider shall be required to perform the 9 following programmatic functions and to maintain sufficient 10 capacity to perform these functions effectively: 11 (1) assist [demonstration] project participants with obtaining 12 and retaining employment; 13 [demonstration] (2) provide project participants with 14 appropriate NJ SNAP ETP services and participant reimbursements 15 that fulfill the purposes of NJ SNAP ETP and that qualify for 16 federal SNAP ETP reimbursements. These services and participant 17 reimbursements may include, but are not limited to: job search and 18 placement services; job readiness assistance; education or training 19 that improves basic skills and general employability; specific job 20 skills training or vocational education; work experience that 21 improves the employability of [demonstration] project participants; subsidized employment; workfare; self-employment training; 22 23 services related to the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998, 24 Pub.L.105-220 (29 U.S.C. s.2801 et seq.); job retention services; or 25 reimbursements for [demonstration] project participant expenses, 26 including dependent care costs, transportation expenses, books or 27 training manuals, fees, uniforms, equipment and tools required for 28 employment, or personal safety items required for program 29 participation; 30 (3) assess and place [demonstration] project participants into 31 appropriate NJ SNAP ETP services, as defined in paragraph (2) of 32 this subsection; 33 (4) provide [demonstration] project participants with support 34 services, including case management, early intervention, career 35 counseling, and referrals to additional programs and services; (5) verify 36 whether potential [demonstration] project 37 participants are receiving SNAP benefits and make referrals, as appropriate, to assist potential [demonstration] project participants 38 39 with applying for SNAP benefits; 40 (6) collaborate with county welfare agencies to develop 41 processes and materials that: inform eligible participants regarding 42 [demonstration] project activities within each county, in accordance with each partnering provider's service area; facilitate 43 44 eligible participants' communications with partnering providers 45 regarding participation in [demonstration] project activities; and 46 assist eligible participants with rendering decisions regarding their 47 participation in [demonstration] project activities;

(7) assist [demonstration] project participants with continuing
 to meet administrative requirements, work requirements,
 employment and training requirements, and other requirements for
 maintaining SNAP eligibility;

(8) coordinate with the department and county welfare agencies
on a monthly basis to verify that [demonstration] project
participants are receiving SNAP benefits and are not receiving
Work First New Jersey TANF benefits;

9 (9) coordinate with the county welfare agencies and the 10 department to distinguish mandatory SNAP ETP participants from 11 voluntary SNAP ETP participants;

12 (10) provide uninterrupted NJ SNAP ETP services and 13 participant reimbursements to mandatory SNAP ETP participants 14 electing to participate in the [demonstration] project who become 15 voluntary SNAP ETP participants and to voluntary SNAP ETP participants electing to participate in the [demonstration] project 16 17 who become mandatory SNAP ETP participants, subject to the provisions for terminating [demonstration] project participation 18 19 pursuant to section 5 of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-99);

(11) maintain program records and report to the department
 ¹and the Department of Labor and Workforce Development¹ the
 following monthly information for each claimed NJ SNAP ETP
 participant: program, participant name, participant Social Security
 number, services and reimbursements received, and weekly hours;

(12) prepare and submit to the department invoice and
certification letters each quarter for the total non-federal resources
and program expenditures qualifying for federal SNAP ETP
reimbursements for the quarter;

(13) monitor [demonstration] project participants and
subcontractors and provide detailed reports of participants,
activities, and outcomes to the ¹ [department] <u>Department of Labor</u>
and Workforce Development¹ on a regular basis;

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

(15) collaborate with the department ¹and the Department of
<u>Labor and Workforce Development</u>¹ to ensure that federal SNAP
ETP reimbursements received under the [demonstration] program
are expended in accordance with all applicable federal laws and
regulations; and

40 (16) report to the department ¹and the Department of Labor
41 and Workforce Development¹ and county welfare agencies on a
42 monthly basis the identities of any mandatory SNAP ETP
43 participants who are not cooperating with, or participating in,
44 assigned services or work, as applicable to mandatory SNAP ETP
45 participants who elect to participate in the [demonstration] project.

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

4 (1) maintain cash flow necessary to manage the delay from5 program outlays to SNAP ETP reimbursements;

6 (2) manage federal grants, track expenditures, and ensure that
7 non-federal resources and program expenditures qualify for federal
8 SNAP ETP reimbursements;

(3) perform cost allocation using multiple funds;

10 (4) track staff time devoted to NJ SNAP ETP activities under11 this [demonstration] project; and

12 (5) maintain records for State audits.

c. Partnering providers may establish agreements with
subcontracting organizations to support their NJ SNAP ETP
activities under this [demonstration] project.

16 d. The department shall consider educational activities serving 17 eligible participants at community colleges as qualifying for federal 18 SNAP ETP reimbursements to the greatest extent allowable under 19 federal laws and regulations. In accordance with section 273.5 of 20 title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, individuals enrolled at least 21 half-time in an institution of higher education who are assigned to, 22 or placed in, an NJ SNAP ETP educational activity, including 23 individuals who voluntarily participate in NJ SNAP ETP activities 24 or who otherwise make self-initiated placements, and who meet all 25 SNAP eligibility requirements shall be determined eligible for 26 SNAP benefits and shall be eligible for participation in the 27 [demonstration] project.

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

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

32 7. a. The county welfare agencies, under the oversight of the33 department, shall assist partnering providers by:

(1) collaborating with partnering providers, the department, and
the Department of Labor and Workforce Development to conduct
outreach to potential [demonstration] project participants and to
refer potential [demonstration] project participants to the
partnering providers;

39 (2) collaborating with partnering providers to develop processes 40 and materials that inform eligible participants regarding: the availability of [demonstration] project activities within each 41 42 county, in accordance with each partnering provider's service area; 43 the option for eligible participants to participate in [demonstration] 44 project activities; the applicability and appropriateness of specific 45 [demonstration] activities to the eligible participant's case; and the 46 means by which eligible participants may contact partnering providers regarding [demonstration] project participation; 47

(3) determining potential [demonstration] project participants'
 SNAP eligibility and providing the results of eligibility
 determinations to partnering providers;

4 (4) developing and implementing a process to verify that 5 potential [demonstration] project participants are receiving SNAP 6 benefits and not receiving Work First New Jersey TANF benefits 7 and ensuring that this verification process adheres to all applicable 8 federal laws and regulations restricting the unauthorized disclosure 9 of information concerning applicants for, and recipients of, SNAP 10 or TANF benefits;

(5) determining each potential [demonstration] project
participant's status as a voluntary SNAP ETP participant or a
mandatory SNAP ETP participant, in coordination with partnering
providers;

(6) confirming each [demonstration] project participant's SNAPeligibility on a monthly basis; and

(7) collaborating with partnering providers to develop criteria 17 18 and procedures for terminating the participation of eligible 19 participants in a partnering provider's [demonstration] project 20 activities including, but not limited to: eligible participants who are 21 not appropriately matched to a partnering provider's 22 [demonstration] project activities; and any mandatory SNAP ETP participants who are not cooperating with, or participating in, 23 24 assigned services or work, as applicable to mandatory SNAP ETP 25 participants who elect to participate in the [demonstration] project.

b. The department shall, in consultation with the county welfare
agencies and the Department of Labor and Workforce
Development:

(1) assist partnering providers with understanding the
administrative requirements, work requirements, employment and
training requirements, and other requirements for [demonstration]
project participants to maintain SNAP eligibility;

33 (2) assist partnering providers with understanding the
34 requirements for non-federal resources and program expenditures to
35 generate federal SNAP ETP reimbursements;

36 (3) submit requests for federal SNAP ETP reimbursements and
37 fulfill all reporting and other SNAP ETP administrative
38 responsibilities required by the Food and Nutrition Service in the
39 United States Department of Agriculture;

(4) distribute federal SNAP ETP reimbursements received by
the State under this [demonstration] project to the partnering
providers whose non-federal resources and program expenditures
generated the federal reimbursements, in accordance with the
provisions of section 8 of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-102);

45 (5) collect data concerning partnering providers and
46 [demonstration] project participants, activities, and outcomes; and
47 (6) audit partnering providers on a routine basis to ensure fiscal

1 and program integrity.

2 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.7)

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4 8. Section 8 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-102) is amended to read 5 as follows:

6 8. a. The department shall submit a revised State Employment 7 and Training Plan to the Food and Nutrition Service in the United 8 States Department of Agriculture, in accordance with section 273.7 9 (c) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, in order to expand NJ 10 SNAP ETP to include [demonstration] project partnerships with qualifying agencies. The revised State Employment and Training 11 12 Plan shall define the services to be provided under NJ SNAP ETP, including, but not limited to, the [demonstration] project services 13 14 provided pursuant to [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.). 15 The department shall submit the revised State Employment and 16 Training Plan to the Food and Nutrition Service as soon as 17 practicable but no later than the first day of the seventh month next following the effective date of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-18 19 95 et seq.).

20 b. The commissioner shall take such additional steps as may be 21 necessary to secure approval from the Food and Nutrition Service in 22 the United States Department of Agriculture for this 23 [demonstration] project and to ensure that the State and partnering 24 providers are in compliance with all applicable provisions of federal 25 and State laws and regulations.

26 c. The department may reserve up to five percent of the federal 27 SNAP ETP reimbursements generated as a direct result of the 28 activities of the partnering providers and received by the State 29 pursuant to [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.) for 30 operating expenses and staff directly related to the administration, 31 oversight, and evaluation of this [demonstration] project. The 32 remaining federal SNAP ETP reimbursements generated as a direct 33 result of the activities of the partnering providers and received by 34 the State pursuant to [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.) 35 shall be distributed to the partnering providers whose expenditures generated the federal SNAP ETP reimbursements on a pro-rata 36 37 basis and in accordance with the performance-based system for distributing federal SNAP ETP reimbursements established 38 39 pursuant to section 4 of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98). 40 Within the request for proposals issued pursuant to [this act] 41 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.), the department shall describe 42 the performance-based system for distributing federal SNAP ETP 43 reimbursements and indicate the net percentage of federal SNAP 44 ETP reimbursements that shall be distributed to partnering 45 providers.

d. The department shall apply for any additional federal funds
which may be available to implement the provisions of [this act]
<u>P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.)</u>, including, but not limited to,

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1 any unobligated, unexpended federal SNAP ETP funds originally 2 allocated to other state agencies and available for reallocation 3 pursuant to section 273.7 (d) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations. 4 ¹[commissioner] <u>Commissioner of Labor and</u> e. The 5 Workforce Development¹ may solicit, receive, and accept grants, funds, or anything of value from any public or private entity and 6 7 receive and accept contributions of money, property, labor, or any 8 other thing of value from any legitimate source to support the 9 [demonstration] project, provided that the commissioner does not 10 have reason to believe that the entity may have a vested interest in 11 the decisions of the commissioner or the department concerning the 12 selection of specific partnering providers. 13 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.8) 14 15 9. Section 9 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-103) is amended to read 16 as follows: 17 9. The ¹[commissioner] <u>Commissioner of Labor and Workforce</u> <u>Development</u>¹ shall issue a report no later than six months 18 19 following the effective date of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.), and annually thereafter no later than September 30 of 20 21 each year, to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, 22 c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature summarizing the participants, activities, and outcomes of the [demonstration] 23 24 project. The initial report under this section shall include, but not 25 be limited to, a summary of the request for proposals issued 26 pursuant to section 4 of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98). 27 Subsequent reports under this section shall include, but not be 28 limited to, the identities of the partnering providers selected 29 pursuant to section 4 of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98) and 30 a summary of [demonstration] project participant demographics, 31 activities, and outcomes for each partnering provider. The reports 32 issued pursuant to this section shall not disclose the identities of 33 any SNAP applicants or recipients and shall adhere to all applicable 34 federal laws and regulations restricting the unauthorized disclosure 35 of information concerning applicants for, and recipients of, SNAP 36 benefits. (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.9) 37 38 39 10. This act shall take effect immediately. 40 41 42 43 44 Makes Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment 45 and Training Provider Demonstration Project permanent and 46 renames program.

SENATE, No. 1948 **STATE OF NEW JERSEY** 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 22, 2018

Sponsored by: Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE District 19 (Middlesex) Senator ROBERT M. GORDON District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

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

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



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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: 1. [This act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.) shall be known 10 11 and may be cited as the "New Jersey SNAP Employment and Training Provider [Demonstration] Project Act." 12 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 participation in NJ SNAP ETP as a voluntary SNAP ETP 24 participant or as a mandatory SNAP ETP participant. 25 26 "Mandatory SNAP ETP participant" means a participant in NJ 27 SNAP ETP who, as a condition of receiving SNAP benefits: is required to register for work; is required to fulfill SNAP 28 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 "[demonstration] project" means the [demonstration] project 33 established pursuant to [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et 34 35 seq.). 36 "NJ SNAP ETP" means the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition 37 Assistance Program Employment and Training Program that assists SNAP recipients with acquiring the skills, training, work, or 38 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.

Matter underlined <u>thus</u> is new matter.

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

1 "Non-federal resources" means any of the following resources, 2 provided that the resources are not from a federal source or used as 3 a match for other federal funding purposes: 4 (1) cash donations from private firms, charitable foundations, or 5 non-profit organizations received by partnering providers; 6 (2) local tax levy funds received by partnering providers; 7 (3) certain eligible in-kind contributions received by partnering 8 providers that are public entities, including property or services 9 which support the provider's NJ SNAP ETP activities and which are 10 contributed by non-federal public entities without charge to the 11 partnering provider; or 12 (4) any other non-federal resources that are currently allowed by 13 the federal government. 14 "Partnering provider" means a qualifying agency selected to 15 participate in the [demonstration] project. "Project participant" means an eligible participant who elects to 16 17 participate in the project established pursuant to P.L.2013, c.45 18 (C.44:10-95 et seq.). 19 "Qualifying agency" means a local government, non-profit entity, institution of higher education, foundation, or other eligible 20 21 community-based organization that qualifies for allowable federal 22 SNAP ETP reimbursements pursuant to the federal "Food and 23 Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.) by 24 providing allowable services that help SNAP recipients acquire the 25 skills, training, work, or experience necessary to obtain regular 26 employment. A qualifying agency may also include a consortium 27 of organizations. 28 "Service area" means the geographic area of the State in which a 29 partnering provider provides NJ SNAP ETP services under the 30 [demonstration] project established pursuant to [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.). 31 32 "SNAP" means the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, established pursuant to the federal "Food and 33 Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.). 34 35 "SNAP ETP" means the federal Supplemental Nutrition 36 Assistance Program Employment and Training Program 37 administered by the Food and Nutrition Service in the United States 38 Department of Agriculture and established pursuant to the federal 39 "Food and Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 40 et seq.) and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto. 41 "Voluntary SNAP ETP participant" means a participant in NJ 42 SNAP ETP who: is exempt from the work registration and 43 employment and training requirements associated with receiving 44 SNAP benefits; or who is not exempt from work registration but 45 who has been exempted from SNAP employment and training 46 requirements or otherwise exempted from placement in an NJ 47 SNAP ETP component. 48 "Work First New Jersey TANF benefits" means Temporary

49 Assistance for Needy Families benefits provided under the Work

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1 First New Jersey program established pursuant to P.L.1997, c.38 2 (C.44:10-55 et seq.) in accordance with the federal "Personal 3 Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996," 4 Pub.L.104-193 (42 U.S.C. s.601 et seq.). 5 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.2) 6 7 3. Section 3 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-97) is amended to read 8 as follows: 9 3. a. The Department of Human Services shall establish the 10 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance New Jersey Program 11 Employment and Training Provider [Demonstration] Project under which the department shall form partnerships with qualifying 12 13 agencies to provide services to eligible participants under NJ SNAP ETP and receive federal reimbursements for those services. The 14 15 department shall consult with the Department of Labor and 16 Workforce Development and the county welfare agencies with 17 respect to the establishment and oversight of the [demonstration] 18 project. 19 b. Applicants for participation as partnering providers in the 20 [demonstration] project shall be qualifying agencies whose employment and training activities qualify for reimbursement under 21 22 the federal SNAP ETP program. Partnering providers in the 23 [demonstration] project shall be selected according to the process and criteria specified in [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et 24 25 <u>seq.)</u>. 26 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.3) 27 28 4. Section 4 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98) is amended to read 29 as follows: 30 4. a. The commissioner shall issue a request for proposals from qualifying agencies to participate in the [demonstration] project no 31 32 later than 60 days following the effective date of [this act] 33 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.). 34 b. (1) The department shall select no fewer than three 35 partnering providers, from among qualifying agencies submitting proposals, to participate in the [demonstration] project for [a] an 36 37 initial period of four years. Partnering providers shall provide services under NJ SNAP ETP to eligible participants and be eligible 38 39 to receive federal reimbursements for those services pursuant to the conditions of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.). 40 41 (2) Subject to the availability of federal funds, the commissioner 42 shall extend the program beyond the initial four year period. The 43 commissioner shall issue a new request for proposals and shall 44 select no fewer than three partnering providers, from among 45 qualifying agencies submitting proposals, to participate in the 46 project for each subsequent contract period. 47 c. Each qualifying agency shall be evaluated for participation as a partnering provider in the [demonstration] project based on the 48

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1 agency's capacity to: serve eligible participants under NJ SNAP 2 ETP; identify and utilize non-federal resources qualifying for 3 federal SNAP ETP reimbursements pursuant to the federal "Food and Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et 4 5 seq.); present and implement a coherent program plan for NJ SNAP 6 ETP activities, as described in subsection d. of this section; and 7 perform effectively each of the functions specified in section 6 of 8 [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-100).

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

(1) the program goals and objectives, including the agency'spriorities for serving eligible participants in the State;

16 (2) the program design, including: strategies for targeting and 17 recruiting eligible participants; educational skills and training 18 activities; work-related activities; job preparation, placement, and 19 retention activities; strategies for coordinating with the county 20 welfare agencies and the Department of Labor and Workforce 21 Development; and strategies for providing support services, 22 including case management, early intervention, career counseling, 23 and referrals to additional programs and services;

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

29 (4) the extent to which community partners, including30 subcontractors, will be involved in the agency's activities; and

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

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

36 (1) serve SNAP recipients with significant barriers to employment, including, but not limited to: able-bodied adults 37 without dependents required to participate in employment and 38 39 training programs as a condition of receiving SNAP benefits; 40 individuals with a history of substance abuse or other work 41 limitations; ex-offenders; individuals with low literacy or limited 42 English proficiency; veterans who are not eligible for other 43 employment and training programs; and persons who are 16 through 44 24 years of age;

45 (2) serve unemployed or underemployed parents, including non46 custodial parents and parents who have exceeded their Work First
47 New Jersey TANF 60-month lifetime limit on cash assistance;

(3) provide training in both vocational and technical skills, as
 well as "soft skills," including, but not limited to: workplace
 preparation training, teamwork, problem solving, time management,
 and conflict resolution;

5 (4) provide training that results in marketable credentials and 6 that prepares participants for employment or reemployment in 7 industries with projections of growth, as the department identifies 8 those industries in collaboration with the Department of Labor and 9 Workforce Development;

(5) conduct job development activities and identify how job
opportunities will be secured to maximize SNAP recipients'
permanent placement in employment providing compensation at the
level of a living wage and opportunities for wage progression; and

14 (6) demonstrate a proven history of successful job placement15 and retention.

f. The department may select partnering providers that would
provide NJ SNAP ETP services within any service area including,
but not limited to: the entire State; one or more regions
encompassing several counties; or a single county.

20 g. Upon selection of a partnering provider, the department shall 21 negotiate and execute a memorandum of understanding with the 22 partnering provider, the Department of Labor and Workforce 23 Development, and county welfare agencies, as applicable. The 24 memorandum of understanding shall define the extent and degree of 25 assistance among the department, the Department of Labor and 26 Workforce Development, the county welfare agencies, and the 27 partnering provider.

h. The commissioner shall establish standards of performance 28 29 for partnering providers conducting [demonstration] project 30 activities pursuant to [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.), 31 including, but not limited to, standards for performing the 32 programmatic functions and financial functions required pursuant to section 6 of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-100). 33 The 34 memorandum of understanding negotiated and executed pursuant to 35 subsection g. of this section shall include a performance-based system for distributing federal SNAP ETP reimbursements to each 36 partnering provider based upon the partnering provider's 37 38 achievement of the standards of performance.

39 i. Upon finding that a partnering provider has not conducted its 40 [demonstration] project activities in accordance with the standards 41 of performance established in subsection h. of this section or that a 42 partnering provider has otherwise failed to comply with the requirements of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.), the 43 44 commissioner may: take such action as is necessary to correct the 45 deficiencies of the provider; and terminate the partnering provider's participation in the [demonstration] project if the provider fails to 46 47 take remedial action.

48 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.4)

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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 activities operating within the county; permit all eligible 7 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 welfare agencies within the provider's service area to: inform all 18 19 eligible participants, upon determination of their eligibility for SNAP benefits, of the availability of [demonstration] project 20 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.

c. A partnering provider shall serve all eligible participants
residing within the provider's service area who elect to participate
in the provider's [demonstration] project activities. Except as
provided in this section, a partnering provider shall not deny or
terminate the participation of any [demonstration] project
participant.

31 d. Mandatory SNAP ETP participants may elect, for the purpose 32 of fulfilling their SNAP employment and training requirements, to participate in a partnering provider's [demonstration] project 33 34 activities. The participation of a mandatory SNAP ETP participant in a partnering provider's [demonstration] project activities shall 35 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 who does not elect to participate in any [demonstration] project 40 41 activities to another NJ SNAP ETP component outside of the 42 [demonstration] project, as available.

e. Mandatory SNAP ETP participants who elect to participate in
[demonstration] project activities but who subsequently do not
cooperate with, or participate in, those activities shall not be subject
to penalties for noncompliance with SNAP employment and
training requirements during their participation in the

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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 non-cooperating or non-participating mandatory SNAP ETP 4 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. g. A partnering provider may deny or terminate the participation 20 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 [demonstration] (2) provide 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

48 training manuals, fees, uniforms, equipment and tools required for

employment, or personal safety items required for program
 participation;

3 (3) assess and place [demonstration] project participants into
4 appropriate NJ SNAP ETP services, as defined in paragraph (2) of
5 this subsection;

6 (4) provide [demonstration] project participants with support
7 services, including case management, early intervention, career
8 counseling, and referrals to additional programs and services;

9 (5) verify whether potential [demonstration] project 10 participants are receiving SNAP benefits and make referrals, as 11 appropriate, to assist potential [demonstration] project participants 12 with applying for SNAP benefits;

(6) collaborate with county welfare agencies to develop 13 14 processes and materials that: inform eligible participants regarding 15 [demonstration] project activities within each county, in accordance with each partnering provider's service area; facilitate 16 17 eligible participants' communications with partnering providers 18 regarding participation in [demonstration] project activities; and 19 assist eligible participants with rendering decisions regarding their 20 participation in [demonstration] project activities;

(7) assist [demonstration] project participants with continuing
to meet administrative requirements, work requirements,
employment and training requirements, and other requirements for
maintaining SNAP eligibility;

(8) coordinate with the department and county welfare agencies
on a monthly basis to verify that [demonstration] project
participants are receiving SNAP benefits and are not receiving
Work First New Jersey TANF benefits;

(9) coordinate with the county welfare agencies and the
department to distinguish mandatory SNAP ETP participants from
voluntary SNAP ETP participants;

32 (10) provide uninterrupted NJ SNAP ETP services and 33 participant reimbursements to mandatory SNAP ETP participants 34 electing to participate in the [demonstration] project who become 35 voluntary SNAP ETP participants and to voluntary SNAP ETP 36 participants electing to participate in the [demonstration] project 37 who become mandatory SNAP ETP participants, subject to the 38 provisions for terminating [demonstration] project participation pursuant to section 5 of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-99); 39

40 (11) maintain program records and report to the department the
41 following monthly information for each claimed NJ SNAP ETP
42 participant: program, participant name, participant Social Security
43 number, services and reimbursements received, and weekly hours;

44 (12) prepare and submit to the department invoice and
45 certification letters each quarter for the total non-federal resources
46 and program expenditures qualifying for federal SNAP ETP
47 reimbursements for the quarter;

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1 [demonstration] project (13) monitor participants and 2 subcontractors and provide detailed reports of participants, 3 activities, and outcomes to the department on a regular basis; 4 (14) devote sufficient staff time and expertise to fulfill NJ 5 SNAP ETP administrative and reporting requirements; 6 (15) collaborate with the department to ensure that federal 7 SNAP ETP reimbursements received under the [demonstration] program are expended in accordance with all applicable federal 8 9 laws and regulations; and 10 (16) report to the department and county welfare agencies on a 11 monthly basis the identities of any mandatory SNAP ETP 12 participants who are not cooperating with, or participating in, 13 assigned services or work, as applicable to mandatory SNAP ETP 14 participants who elect to participate in the [demonstration] project. 15 b. Each partnering provider shall be required to perform the following financial functions and to maintain sufficient capacity to 16 17 perform the functions effectively: 18 (1) maintain cash flow necessary to manage the delay from 19 program outlays to SNAP ETP reimbursements; 20 (2) manage federal grants, track expenditures, and ensure that 21 non-federal resources and program expenditures qualify for federal 22 SNAP ETP reimbursements; 23 (3) perform cost allocation using multiple funds; 24 (4) track staff time devoted to NJ SNAP ETP activities under 25 this [demonstration] project; and 26 (5) maintain records for State audits. 27 c. Partnering providers may establish agreements with subcontracting organizations to support their NJ SNAP ETP 28 29 activities under this [demonstration] project. 30 d. The department shall consider educational activities serving eligible participants at community colleges as qualifying for federal 31 32 SNAP ETP reimbursements to the greatest extent allowable under 33 federal laws and regulations. In accordance with section 273.5 of 34 title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, individuals enrolled at least 35 half-time in an institution of higher education who are assigned to, 36 or placed in, an NJ SNAP ETP educational activity, including 37 individuals who voluntarily participate in NJ SNAP ETP activities 38 or who otherwise make self-initiated placements, and who meet all 39 SNAP eligibility requirements shall be determined eligible for SNAP benefits and shall be eligible for participation in the 40 41 [demonstration] project. 42 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.6) 43 44 7. Section 7 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-101) is amended to read 45 as follows: 46 7. a. The county welfare agencies, under the oversight of the

47 department, shall assist partnering providers by:

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1 (1) collaborating with partnering providers, the department, and 2 the Department of Labor and Workforce Development to conduct 3 outreach to potential [demonstration] project participants and to 4 refer potential [demonstration] project participants to the 5 partnering providers;

6 (2) collaborating with partnering providers to develop processes 7 and materials that inform eligible participants regarding: the 8 availability of [demonstration] project activities within each 9 county, in accordance with each partnering provider's service area; 10 the option for eligible participants to participate in [demonstration] 11 project activities; the applicability and appropriateness of specific 12 [demonstration] activities to the eligible participant's case; and the means by which eligible participants may contact partnering 13 14 providers regarding [demonstration] project participation;

(3) determining potential [demonstration] project participants'
SNAP eligibility and providing the results of eligibility
determinations to partnering providers;

(4) developing and implementing a process to verify that
potential [demonstration] project participants are receiving SNAP
benefits and not receiving Work First New Jersey TANF benefits
and ensuring that this verification process adheres to all applicable
federal laws and regulations restricting the unauthorized disclosure
of information concerning applicants for, and recipients of, SNAP
or TANF benefits;

(5) determining each potential [demonstration] project
participant's status as a voluntary SNAP ETP participant or a
mandatory SNAP ETP participant, in coordination with partnering
providers;

29 (6) confirming each [demonstration] project participant's SNAP
30 eligibility on a monthly basis; and

(7) collaborating with partnering providers to develop criteria 31 32 and procedures for terminating the participation of eligible 33 participants in a partnering provider's [demonstration] project 34 activities including, but not limited to: eligible participants who are 35 appropriately matched to a partnering not provider's 36 [demonstration] project activities; and any mandatory SNAP ETP participants who are not cooperating with, or participating in, 37 38 assigned services or work, as applicable to mandatory SNAP ETP 39 participants who elect to participate in the [demonstration] project.

b. The department shall, in consultation with the county welfare
agencies and the Department of Labor and Workforce
Development:

43 (1) assist partnering providers with understanding the
44 administrative requirements, work requirements, employment and
45 training requirements, and other requirements for [demonstration]
46 project participants to maintain SNAP eligibility;

(2) assist partnering providers with understanding the
 requirements for non-federal resources and program expenditures to
 generate federal SNAP ETP reimbursements;

4 (3) submit requests for federal SNAP ETP reimbursements and
5 fulfill all reporting and other SNAP ETP administrative
6 responsibilities required by the Food and Nutrition Service in the
7 United States Department of Agriculture;

8 (4) distribute federal SNAP ETP reimbursements received by 9 the State under this [demonstration] project to the partnering 10 providers whose non-federal resources and program expenditures 11 generated the federal reimbursements, in accordance with the 12 provisions of section 8 of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-102);

13 (5) collect data concerning partnering providers and14 [demonstration] project participants, activities, and outcomes; and

(6) audit partnering providers on a routine basis to ensure fiscaland program integrity.

17 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.7)

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19 8. Section 8 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-102) is amended to read20 as follows:

8. a. The department shall submit a revised State Employment 21 22 and Training Plan to the Food and Nutrition Service in the United 23 States Department of Agriculture, in accordance with section 273.7 24 (c) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, in order to expand NJ 25 SNAP ETP to include [demonstration] project partnerships with 26 qualifying agencies. The revised State Employment and Training 27 Plan shall define the services to be provided under NJ SNAP ETP, including, but not limited to, the [demonstration] project services 28 29 provided pursuant to [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.). 30 The department shall submit the revised State Employment and 31 Training Plan to the Food and Nutrition Service as soon as 32 practicable but no later than the first day of the seventh month next following the effective date of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-33 34 95 et seq.).

35 b. The commissioner shall take such additional steps as may be 36 necessary to secure approval from the Food and Nutrition Service in 37 the United States Department of Agriculture for this 38 [demonstration] project and to ensure that the State and partnering 39 providers are in compliance with all applicable provisions of federal 40 and State laws and regulations.

41 c. The department may reserve up to five percent of the federal 42 SNAP ETP reimbursements generated as a direct result of the 43 activities of the partnering providers and received by the State 44 pursuant to [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.) for 45 operating expenses and staff directly related to the administration, 46 oversight, and evaluation of this [demonstration] project. The 47 remaining federal SNAP ETP reimbursements generated as a direct 48 result of the activities of the partnering providers and received by

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1 the State pursuant to [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.) 2 shall be distributed to the partnering providers whose expenditures 3 generated the federal SNAP ETP reimbursements on a pro-rata 4 basis and in accordance with the performance-based system for 5 distributing federal SNAP ETP reimbursements established 6 pursuant to section 4 of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98). 7 Within the request for proposals issued pursuant to [this act] 8 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.), the department shall describe 9 the performance-based system for distributing federal SNAP ETP 10 reimbursements and indicate the net percentage of federal SNAP 11 ETP reimbursements that shall be distributed to partnering 12 providers. 13 d. The department shall apply for any additional federal funds which may be available to implement the provisions of [this act]

14 15 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.), including, but not limited to, 16 any unobligated, unexpended federal SNAP ETP funds originally 17 allocated to other state agencies and available for reallocation 18 pursuant to section 273.7 (d) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations. 19 e. The commissioner may solicit, receive, and accept grants, 20 funds, or anything of value from any public or private entity and 21 receive and accept contributions of money, property, labor, or any 22 other thing of value from any legitimate source to support the 23 [demonstration] project, provided that the commissioner does not 24 have reason to believe that the entity may have a vested interest in 25 the decisions of the commissioner or the department concerning the 26 selection of specific partnering providers.

- 27 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.8)
- 28

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

31 9. The commissioner shall issue a report no later than six 32 months following the effective date of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 33 (C.44:10-95 et seq.), and annually thereafter no later than 34 September 30 of each year, to the Governor and, pursuant to section 35 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature summarizing the participants, activities, and outcomes of the [demonstration] 36 37 project. The initial report under this section shall include, but not 38 be limited to, a summary of the request for proposals issued 39 pursuant to section 4 of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98). 40 Subsequent reports under this section shall include, but not be 41 limited to, the identities of the partnering providers selected pursuant to section 4 of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98) and 42 43 a summary of [demonstration] project participant demographics, 44 activities, and outcomes for each partnering provider. The reports 45 issued pursuant to this section shall not disclose the identities of 46 any SNAP applicants or recipients and shall adhere to all applicable 47 federal laws and regulations restricting the unauthorized disclosure

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1	of information concerning applicants for, and recipients of, SNAP			
2	benefits.			
3	(cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.9)			
4				
5	10. This act shall take effect immediately.			
6				
7				
8	STATEMENT			
9				
10	This bill makes the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program			
11	Employment and Training Provider Demonstration Project			
12	permanent, and renames the program to recognize that it would no			
13	longer be a demonstration program.			
14	The SNAP ETP Provider Demonstration Project was enacted into			
15	law in 2013, and began operation in 2014. The project is intended			
16	to allow SNAP participants to obtain job training and develop the			
17	necessary skills to find and keep regular employment. As of early			
18	2018, the program provides grants to two entities: Blessed			
19	Ministries, Inc. and YouthBuild Newark, Inc. The authorizing			
20	statute specifies that the demonstration project is to run for four			
21	years, and so these contracts are set to expire in August 2018. This			
22	bill would allow the agencies currently participating in the program,			
23	as well as new agencies, to apply to provide job and skills training			
24	services to SNAP participants in the future.			

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint] SENATE, No. 1948

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 17, 2019

The Assembly Budget Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1948 (1R), with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill makes the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Employment and Training Provider (ETP) Demonstration Project permanent, renames the program, and transfer it and other NJ SNAP employment and training programs to the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD).

The SNAP ETP Demonstration Project was enacted into law in 2013, and providers were contracted to provide employment and training services as of January 2016. The authorizing statute specifies that the demonstration project is to run for four years. The project is intended to allow SNAP participants to obtain job training and develop the necessary skills to find and keep regular employment. In fiscal year 2018, the program provided grants to two entities: Blessed Ministries, Inc. and YouthBuild Newark, Inc. This bill would allow these agencies, and other agencies, to apply for grant funds to provide job and skills training services to SNAP participants into the future.

As reported, this bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 3647, as amended and reported by the committee.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes that this bill will increase State revenue due to the receipt of federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training Program (SNAP ETP) reimbursements for qualifying program expenses incurred by partnering providers, as well as eligible administrative expenses incurred by the Department of Human Services (DHS), the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD), and County Welfare Agencies (CWAs), under the New Jersey SNAP Employment and Training (E&T) Provider 50/50 Match Project. This project reflects the permanent implementation, with modifications to State agency administrative roles, of the existing NJ SNAP E&T Demonstration Project.

The federal revenue generated will be dependent upon the availability of funds, the scope of ETP services offered by providers under the bill, and the administrative costs of implementing and supporting the project. The estimate assumes that in continuing the program beyond its pilot phase, State expenditures will be confined to the amount of federal revenue received.

The OLS does not have access to data indicating the costs of the existing NJ SNAP E&T Demonstration Project, and therefore cannot quantify the potential impact of this bill.

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1948

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 18, 2019

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1948, with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill makes the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Employment and Training Provider (ETP) Demonstration Project permanent, renames the program, and transfer it and other NJ SNAP employment and training programs to the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD).

The SNAP ETP Demonstration Project was enacted into law in 2013, and providers were contracted to provide employment and training services as of January 2016. The authorizing statute specifies that the demonstration project is to run for four years. The project is intended to allow SNAP participants to obtain job training and develop the necessary skills to find and keep regular employment. In fiscal year 2018, the program provided grants to two entities: Blessed Ministries, Inc. and YouthBuild Newark, Inc. This bill would allow these agencies, and other agencies, to apply for grant funds to provide job and skills training services to SNAP participants into the future.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The amendments rename the project as the "New Jersey SNAP Employment and Training Provider 50/50 Match Project, require the Department of Human Services (DHS) and the DOLWD to enter into a memorandum of understanding by which the DOLWD would administer and operate the project and NJ SNAP ETP activities, and which memorandum is to detail the process by which funds for the support of the project and other NJ SNAP ETP activities are to be transferred from DHS to the DOLWD.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes that this bill will increase State revenue due to the receipt of federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Employment and Training Program (ETP) reimbursements for qualifying SNAP ETP expenses incurred by partnering providers under the New Jersey SNAP Employment and Training (E&T) Provider Project, as established under the bill. This project is the permanent implementation, with modifications as to State agency administrative roles, of the existing NJ SNAP E&T Demonstration Project and conforms to the provisions of P.L.2013, c.45. The federal revenue generated will be dependent upon the availability of funds and the scope of ETP services offered by providers under the bill. The estimate assumes that in continuing the program beyond its pilot phase, State expenditures on the program will be confined to the amount of federal revenue received.

The Division of Family Development (DFD) within the Department of Human Services (DHS) and County Welfare Agencies (CWAs) may also incur costs in the administration of the NJ SNAP E&T Provider Project, due to the need for partnering providers to collaborate and coordinate with those agencies for the benefit of project participants. It is possible that certain costs may be reduced or eliminated by the revenues generated under the bill or existing State and local resources. The OLS does not have access to data indicating the costs to the DFD and CWAs under the existing NJ SNAP E&T Demonstration Project, and therefore cannot quantify the potential impact of this bill on such entities.

SENATE HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1948

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 24, 2018

The Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1948.

This bill makes the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Employment and Training Provider (ETP) Demonstration Project permanent, and renames the program to recognize that it would no longer be a demonstration program.

The SNAP ETP Demonstration Project was enacted into law in 2013, and began operation in 2014. The authorizing statute specifies that the demonstration project is to run for four years. The project is intended to allow SNAP participants to obtain job training and develop the necessary skills to find and keep regular employment. In fiscal year 2018, the program provided grants to two entities: Blessed Ministries, Inc. and YouthBuild Newark, Inc. This bill would allow these agencies, as well as new agencies, to apply for grant funds to continue to provide job and skills training services to SNAP participants into the future.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE [First Reprint] SENATE, No. 1948 STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

DATED: MARCH 29, 2019

SUMMARY

Synopsis:	Makes Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training Provider Demonstration Project permanent and renames program.
Type of Impact:	Annual increase in State expenditures and revenue; General Fund. Annual increase in County expenditures and revenue.
Agencies Affected:	Department of Human Services; Department of Labor and Workforce Development; Counties.

Office of Legislative Services Estimate		
Fiscal Impact	Annual	
State Cost Increase	Indeterminate	
State Revenue Increase	Indeterminate	
Local Cost Increase	Indeterminate	
Local Revenue Increase	Indeterminate	

Office of Legislative Services Estimate

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes that this bill will increase State revenue due to the receipt of federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training Program (SNAP ETP) reimbursements for qualifying program expenses incurred by partnering providers, as well as eligible administrative expenses incurred by the Department of Human Services (DHS), the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD), and County Welfare Agencies (CWAs), under the New Jersey SNAP Employment and Training (E&T) Provider 50/50 Match Project. This project reflects the permanent implementation, with modifications to State agency administrative roles, of the existing NJ SNAP E&T Demonstration Project.
- The federal revenue generated will be dependent upon the availability of funds, the scope of ETP services offered by providers under the bill, and the administrative costs of implementing and supporting the project. The estimate assumes that in continuing the program beyond its pilot phase, State expenditures will be confined to the amount of federal revenue received.



• The OLS does not have access to data indicating the costs of the existing NJ SNAP E&T Demonstration Project, and therefore cannot quantify the potential impact of this bill.

BILL DESCRIPTION

This bill makes the NJ SNAP E&T Provider Demonstration Project, established in accordance with P.L.2013, c.45 permanent, and renames the program the NJ SNAP E&T Provider 50/50 Match Project. The bill requires the DHS to establish the project and enter into a memorandum of understanding with the DOLWD, which would administer and operate the project and NJ SNAP ETP activities. The memorandum is to detail the process by which funds that support of the project and other NJ SNAP ETP activities will be transferred from DHS to the DOLWD. As under current law, the DHS is required to form partnerships with qualifying agencies to provide services to eligible participants and to receive federal funds for those services. The DOLWD is required, subject to the availability of federal funds, to annually issue a new request for proposals and maintain the participation of no fewer than three partnering providers from among qualifying agencies submitting proposals.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

None received.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The OLS concludes that this bill will increase State revenue due to the receipt of federal SNAP ETP reimbursements for qualifying SNAP ETP program expenses incurred by partnering providers, as well as for qualifying administrative expenses incurred by the DHS, the DOLWD, and CWAs for the New Jersey SNAP E&T Provider 50/50 Match Project established under the bill. This project reflects the permanent implementation, with modifications to State agency administrative roles, of the existing NJ SNAP E&T Demonstration Project.

The federal revenue generated will be dependent upon the availability of funds, the scope of ETP services offered by providers under the bill, and the administrative costs of implementing and supporting the project. The estimate assumes that in continuing the program beyond its pilot phase, State expenditures will be confined to the amount of federal revenue received. The OLS does not have access to data indicating the costs of the existing NJ SNAP E&T Demonstration Project, and therefore cannot quantify the potential impact of this bill.

Under the bill, the participating providers in the SNAP E&T Provider 50/50 Match Project are to identify and utilize non-federal resources which are eligible to receive federal SNAP ETP reimbursements for providing services to eligible participants. Such reimbursements are known as 50 percent reimbursement grants ("50-50 funds") and are authorized under the "Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018," a five-year reauthorization of the federal farm bill. Through 50-50 funds, the federal government reimburses states, which are authorized to partner with third-party organizations, for up to 50 percent of SNAP ETP program costs that exceed their federal ETP formula grant. Reimbursable services include: 1) administrative costs; and 2) expenses directly related to participation in the program such adult education and training costs, as well as supportive service expenses necessary for individuals to participate in SNAP ETP, which include child care, transportation, supplies, and books. Unlike the formula grant, 50-50 funds are uncapped.

The OLS notes that, in addition to federal SNAP ETP reimbursements for administrative costs, the bill allows five percent of federal SNAP ETP reimbursements generated as a direct result of the activities of the partnering providers to be reserved for operating expenses and staff directly related to the administration, oversight, and evaluation of the project. The OLS cannot predict how these funds may be dispersed among the DHS, DOLWD, and CWAs.

Under the demonstration project, the DHS, Division of Family Development entered into contracts with Blessed Ministries, Inc. and with YouthBuild Newark, Inc. on January 1, 2016. While the law requires three partnering providers, the DHS notes in a report regarding the demonstration project that the department only received two complete bids in response to a request for proposals published on June 16, 2014. Between the two providers, 321 eligible SNAP recipients participated in SNAP ETP services.¹ According to the FY 2015 Budget in Brief (see page 47), the State anticipated a \$500,000 grant from the Nicholson Foundation, matched by \$500,000 in federal 50-50 funds, to support the implementation of the NJ SNAP E&T Demonstration Project.²

Section:	Human Services
Analyst:	Sarah Schmidt Senior Research Analyst
Approved:	Frank W. Haines III Legislative Budget and Finance Officer

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).

¹https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/news/reports/2016%20NJ%20SNAP%20-

^{%20}Employment%20and%20Training%20Provider%20Demonstration%20Project%20Report.pdf

² <u>https://www.nj.gov/treasury/omb/publications/15bib/BIB.pdf</u>

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)

2

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 Training Provider [Demonstration] Project Act." 12 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 participation in NJ SNAP ETP as a voluntary SNAP ETP 24 participant or as a mandatory SNAP ETP participant. 25 26 "Mandatory SNAP ETP participant" means a participant in NJ SNAP ETP who, as a condition of receiving SNAP benefits: is 27 required to register for work; is required to fulfill SNAP 28 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 "[demonstration] project" means the [demonstration] project 33 established pursuant to [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et 34 35 seq.). "NJ SNAP ETP" means the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition 36 37 Assistance Program Employment and Training Program that assists SNAP recipients with acquiring the skills, training, work, or 38 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 <u>thus</u> 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. "Project participant" means an eligible participant who elects to 13 14 participate in the project established pursuant to P.L.2013, c.45 15 (C.44:10-95 et seq.). "Qualifying agency" means a local government, non-profit 16 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 partnering provider provides NJ SNAP ETP services under the 26 27 [demonstration] project established pursuant to [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.). 28 29 "SNAP" means the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition 30 Assistance Program, established pursuant to the federal "Food and Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.). 31 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 "Food and Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 36 37 et seq.) and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto. "Voluntary SNAP ETP participant" means a participant in NJ 38 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 who has been exempted from SNAP employment and training 42 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 Assistance 8 Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Program New 9 Employment and Training Provider [Demonstration] Project under which the department shall form partnerships with qualifying 10 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 [demonstration] project shall be qualifying agencies whose 18 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 period of four years. Partnering providers shall provide services under NJ 35 SNAP ETP to eligible participants and be eligible to receive federal 36 37 reimbursements for those services pursuant to the conditions of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.). 38 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 agency's capacity to: serve eligible participants under NJ SNAP 47

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

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

(1) the program goals and objectives, including the agency'spriorities 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;

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

28 (4) the extent to which community partners, including29 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).

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

35 (1) serve SNAP recipients with significant barriers to employment, including, but not limited to: able-bodied adults 36 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 non45 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, as48 well as "soft skills," including, but not limited to: workplace

preparation training, teamwork, problem solving, time management,
 and conflict resolution;
 (4) provide training that results in marketable credentials and

that prepares participants for employment or reemployment in
industries with projections of growth, as the department identifies
those industries in collaboration with the Department of Labor and
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 placement13 and retention.

f. The department may select partnering providers that would
provide NJ SNAP ETP services within any service area including,
but not limited to: the entire State; one or more regions
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 section 6 of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-100). 31 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 participation in the [demonstration] project if the provider fails to 44 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 activities operating within the county; permit all eligible 7 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 welfare agencies within the provider's service area to: inform all 18 19 eligible participants, upon determination of their eligibility for SNAP benefits, of the availability of [demonstration] project 20 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.

c. A partnering provider shall serve all eligible participants
residing within the provider's service area who elect to participate
in the provider's [demonstration] project activities. Except as
provided in this section, a partnering provider shall not deny or
terminate the participation of any [demonstration] project
participant.

31 d. Mandatory SNAP ETP participants may elect, for the purpose 32 of fulfilling their SNAP employment and training requirements, to participate in a partnering provider's [demonstration] project 33 34 activities. The participation of a mandatory SNAP ETP participant in a partnering provider's [demonstration] project activities shall 35 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 who does not elect to participate in any [demonstration] project 40 41 activities to another NJ SNAP ETP component outside of the 42 [demonstration] project, as available.

e. Mandatory SNAP ETP participants who elect to participate in
[demonstration] project activities but who subsequently do not
cooperate with, or participate in, those activities shall not be subject
to penalties for noncompliance with SNAP employment and
training requirements during their participation in the

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[demonstration] project. Partnering providers shall terminate the

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2 [demonstration] project participation of any non-cooperating or 3 non-participating mandatory SNAP ETP participants and refer the non-cooperating or non-participating mandatory SNAP ETP 4 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 another NJ SNAP ETP component outside of the [demonstration] 18 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 [demonstration] (2) provide 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

training manuals, fees, uniforms, equipment and tools required for
employment, or personal safety items required for program
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 processes and materials that: inform eligible participants regarding 15 [demonstration] project activities within each county, in 16 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 assist eligible participants with rendering decisions regarding their 20 21 participation in [demonstration] project activities;

(7) assist [demonstration] project participants with continuing
to meet administrative requirements, work requirements,
employment and training requirements, and other requirements for
maintaining SNAP eligibility;

(8) coordinate with the department and county welfare agencies
on a monthly basis to verify that [demonstration] project
participants are receiving SNAP benefits and are not receiving
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);

(11) maintain program records and report to the department the
following monthly information for each claimed NJ SNAP ETP
participant: program, participant name, participant Social Security
number, services and reimbursements received, and weekly hours;

45 (12) prepare and submit to the department invoice and46 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; (3) perform cost allocation using multiple funds; 25 26 (4) track staff time devoted to NJ SNAP ETP activities under 27 this [demonstration] project; and (5) maintain records for State audits. 28 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 federal laws and regulations. In accordance with section 273.5 of 35 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 SNAP eligibility requirements shall be determined eligible for 41 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:

7. a. The county welfare agencies, under the oversight of the
 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;

(3) determining potential [demonstration] project participants'
SNAP eligibility and providing the results of eligibility
determinations to partnering providers;

(4) developing and implementing a process to verify that
potential [demonstration] project participants are receiving SNAP
benefits and not receiving Work First New Jersey TANF benefits
and ensuring that this verification process adheres to all applicable
federal laws and regulations restricting the unauthorized disclosure
of information concerning applicants for, and recipients of, SNAP
or TANF benefits;

(5) determining each potential [demonstration] project
participant's status as a voluntary SNAP ETP participant or a
mandatory SNAP ETP participant, in coordination with partnering
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 activities including, but not limited to: eligible participants who are 36 37 not appropriately matched to a partnering provider's [demonstration] project activities; and any mandatory SNAP ETP 38 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.

b. The department shall, in consultation with the county welfare
agencies and the Department of Labor and Workforce
Development:

45 (1) assist partnering providers with understanding the 46 administrative requirements, work requirements, employment and

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training requirements, and other requirements for [demonstration] 1 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; (4) distribute federal SNAP ETP reimbursements received by 10 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 [demonstration] project participants, activities, and outcomes; and 16 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, including, but not limited to, the [demonstration] project services 30 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 following the effective date of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-35 36 95 et seq.). 37 b. The commissioner shall take such additional steps as may be necessary to secure approval from the Food and Nutrition Service in 38 39 United States Department of Agriculture the for this [demonstration] project and to ensure that the State and partnering 40 41 providers are in compliance with all applicable provisions of federal 42 and State laws and regulations. 43 The department may reserve up to five percent of the federal c. 44 SNAP ETP reimbursements generated as a direct result of the 45 activities of the partnering providers and received by the State pursuant to [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.) for 46 47 operating expenses and staff directly related to the administration,

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oversight, and evaluation of this [demonstration] project. The 1 2 remaining federal SNAP ETP reimbursements generated as a direct 3 result of the activities of the partnering providers and received by the State pursuant to [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.) 4 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 distributing federal SNAP ETP reimbursements established 8 pursuant to section 4 of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98). 9 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 pursuant to section 273.7 (d) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations. 21 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 [demonstration] project, provided that the commissioner does not 26 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 pursuant to section 4 of [this act] P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98) and 45 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. (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.9) 6 7 8 10. This act shall take effect immediately. 9 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. The SNAP ETP Provider Demonstration Project was enacted into 17 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 2018, the program provides grants to two entities: Blessed 21 Ministries, Inc. and YouthBuild Newark, Inc. The authorizing 22 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.

ASSEMBLY BUDGET COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3647

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 17, 2019

The Assembly Budget Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3647, with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill makes the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Employment and Training Provider (ETP) Demonstration Project permanent, renames the program, and transfers it and other NJ SNAP employment and training programs to the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD).

The SNAP ETP Demonstration Project was enacted into law in 2013, and providers were contracted to provide employment and training services as of January 2016. The authorizing statute specifies that the demonstration project is to run for four years. The project is intended to allow SNAP participants to obtain job training and develop the necessary skills to find and keep regular employment. In fiscal year 2018, the program provided grants to two entities: Blessed Ministries, Inc. and YouthBuild Newark, Inc. This bill would allow these agencies, and other agencies, to apply for grant funds to provide job and skills training services to SNAP participants into the future.

As amended and reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 3647 is identical to Senate Bill No. 1948(1R), which the committee also reported on this date.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The amendments rename the project as the "New Jersey SNAP Employment and Training Provider 50/50 Match Project;" require the Department of Human Services (DHS) and the DOLWD to enter into a memorandum of understanding by which the DOLWD would administer and operate the project and NJ SNAP ETP activities; and require such memorandum of understanding to detail the process by which funds for the support of the project and other NJ SNAP ETP activities are to be transferred from DHS to the DOLWD.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes that this bill will increase State revenue due to the receipt of federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training Program (SNAP ETP) reimbursements for qualifying program expenses incurred by partnering providers, as well as eligible administrative expenses incurred by the Department of Human Services (DHS), the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD), and County Welfare Agencies (CWAs), under the New Jersey SNAP Employment and Training (E&T) Provider 50/50 Match Project. This project reflects the permanent implementation, with modifications to State agency administrative roles, of the existing NJ SNAP E&T Demonstration Project.

The federal revenue generated will be dependent upon the availability of funds, the scope of ETP services offered by providers under the bill, and the administrative costs of implementing and supporting the project. The estimate assumes that in continuing the program beyond its pilot phase, State expenditures will be confined to the amount of federal revenue received.

The OLS does not have access to data indicating the costs of the existing NJ SNAP E&T Demonstration Project, and therefore cannot quantify the potential impact of this bill.

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3647

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 14, 2018

The Assembly Human Services Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3647.

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

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

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE [First Reprint] ASSEMBLY, No. 3647 STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

DATED: JUNE 28, 2019

SUMMARY

Synopsis:	Makes Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training Provider Demonstration Project permanent and renames program.
Type of Impact:	Annual increase in State expenditures and revenue. Annual increase in County expenditures and revenue.
Agencies Affected:	Department of Human Services; Department of Labor and Workforce Development; Counties.

office of Legislative bet fices Estimate		
Fiscal Impact	Annual	
State Cost Increase	Indeterminate	
State Revenue Increase	Indeterminate	
Local Cost Increase	Indeterminate	
Local Revenue Increase	Indeterminate	

Office of Legislative Services Estimate

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes that this bill will increase State revenue due to the receipt of federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training Program (SNAP ETP) reimbursements for qualifying program expenses incurred by partnering providers, as well as eligible administrative expenses incurred by the Department of Human Services (DHS), the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD), and County Welfare Agencies (CWAs), under the New Jersey SNAP Employment and Training (E&T) Provider 50/50 Match Project. This project reflects the permanent implementation, with modifications to State agency administrative roles, of the existing NJ SNAP E&T Demonstration Project.
- The federal revenue generated will be dependent upon the availability of funds, the scope of ETP services offered by providers under the bill, and the administrative costs of implementing and supporting the project. The estimate assumes that in continuing the



program beyond its pilot phase, State expenditures will be confined to the amount of federal revenue received.

• The OLS does not have access to data indicating the costs of the existing NJ SNAP E&T Demonstration Project, and therefore cannot quantify the potential impact of this bill.

BILL DESCRIPTION

This bill makes the NJ SNAP E&T Provider Demonstration Project, established in accordance with P.L.2013, c.45 permanent, and renames the program the NJ SNAP E&T Provider 50/50 Match Project. The bill requires the DHS to establish the project and enter into a memorandum of understanding with the DOLWD, which would administer and operate the project and NJ SNAP ETP activities. The memorandum is to detail the process by which funds that support of the project and other NJ SNAP ETP activities will be transferred from DHS to the DOLWD. As under current law, the DHS is required to form partnerships with qualifying agencies to provide services to eligible participants and to receive federal funds for those services. The DOLWD is required, subject to the availability of federal funds, to annually issue a new request for proposals and maintain the participation of no fewer than three partnering providers from among qualifying agencies submitting proposals.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

None received.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The OLS concludes that this bill will increase State revenue due to the receipt of federal SNAP ETP reimbursements for qualifying SNAP ETP program expenses incurred by partnering providers, as well as for qualifying administrative expenses incurred by the DHS, the DOLWD, and CWAs for the New Jersey SNAP E&T Provider 50/50 Match Project established under the bill. This project reflects the permanent implementation, with modifications to State agency administrative roles, of the existing NJ SNAP E&T Demonstration Project.

The federal revenue generated will be dependent upon the availability of funds, the scope of ETP services offered by providers under the bill, and the administrative costs of implementing and supporting the project. The estimate assumes that in continuing the program beyond its pilot phase, State expenditures will be confined to the amount of federal revenue received. The OLS does not have access to data indicating the costs of the existing NJ SNAP E&T Demonstration Project, and therefore cannot quantify the potential impact of this bill.

Under the bill, the participating providers in the SNAP E&T Provider 50/50 Match Project are to identify and utilize non-federal resources which are eligible to receive federal SNAP ETP reimbursements for providing services to eligible participants. Such reimbursements are known as 50 percent reimbursement grants ("50-50 funds") and are authorized under the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, a five-year reauthorization of the federal farm bill. Through 50-50 funds, the federal government reimburses states, which are authorized to partner with third-party

organizations, for up to 50 percent of SNAP ETP program costs that exceed their federal ETP formula grant. Reimbursable services include: 1) administrative costs; and 2) expenses directly related to participation in the program such adult education and training costs, as well as supportive service expenses necessary for individuals to participate in SNAP ETP, which include child care, transportation, supplies, and books. Unlike the formula grant, 50-50 funds are uncapped.

The OLS notes that, in addition to federal SNAP ETP reimbursements for administrative costs, the bill allows five percent of federal SNAP ETP reimbursements generated as a direct result of the activities of the partnering providers to be reserved for operating expenses and staff directly related to the administration, oversight, and evaluation of the project. The OLS cannot predict how these funds may be dispersed among the DHS, DOLWD, and CWAs.

Under the demonstration project, the DHS, Division of Family Development entered into contracts with Blessed Ministries, Inc. and with YouthBuild Newark, Inc. on January 1, 2016. While the law requires three partnering providers, the DHS notes in a report regarding the demonstration project that the department only received two complete bids in response to a request for proposals published on June 16, 2014. Between the two providers, 321 eligible SNAP recipients participated in SNAP ETP services.¹ According to the FY 2015 Budget in Brief (see page 47), the State anticipated a \$500,000 grant from the Nicholson Foundation, matched by \$500,000 in federal 50-50 funds, to support the implementation of the NJ SNAP E&T Demonstration Project.²

Section:	Human Services
Analyst:	Sarah Schmidt Senior Research Analyst
Approved:	Frank W. Haines III Legislative Budget and Finance Officer

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).

¹https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/news/reports/2016%20NJ%20SNAP%20-

^{%20}Employment%20and%20Training%20Provider%20Demonstration%20Project%20Report.pdf

² <u>https://www.nj.gov/treasury/omb/publications/15bib/BIB.pdf</u>

Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

08/23/2019

Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

TRENTON – Today, Governor Phil Murphy signed the following bills and resolutions into law:

A3118 (Burzichelli, Schepisi, Jasey/Bucco, Thompson) - Establishes licensure for master hearth specialists.

A4420 (Holley/Scutari) - Modifies certain fees charged by check casher licensees.

A4482 (Verrelli, Murphy, Downey/Greenstein) - Establishes "Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Violence Against Persons with Developmental Disabilities" in DHS.

A5293 (Pinkin, Zwicker, Lopez, McKeon/Smith, Bateman, Greenstein) - Makes various changes to laws governing remediation of contaminated sites.

A5390 (Tucker, Mukherji, Timberlake/Gopal, Oroho) - Provides in-State tuition at public institutions of higher education to individuals living in NJ who are entitled to educational assistance under US Department of Veterans Affairs' Vocational Rehabilitations and Employment Program.

S499 (Vitale, Madden/Downey, Houghtaling, Zwicker) - Provides for improved system for eligibility determination for Medicaid and NJ FamilyCare.

Copy of Statement on S499

S785 (Sarlo, Lagana/Calabrese, Mukherji) - Requires Police Training Commission to develop supplemental training course for certain county corrections officers.

S1014 (Rice/Wimberly, Mukherji) - Changes composition of State Employment and Training Commission.

S1126 (Bucco, Doherty, Bucco/Coughlin, Webber) - Requires public school districts to provide instruction on "New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act" as part of New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

S1403 (Diegnan, Singleton/DeAngelo, Mazzeo, Sumter) - Permits service credit transferred from another Stateadministered retirement system to apply toward creditable service requirement for retirement in SPRS.

S1887 (Singleton, Greenstein/DeAngelo, Wirths, Space) - Directs Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development to establish pilot program to assist certain unemployed and underemployed individuals to complete industry-valued Credentials in 12 months.

S1948 (Vitale/Quijano, Holley, Lopez) - Makes Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training Provider Demonstration Project permanent and renames program.

S2507 (Singleton, Pou/Danielsen, DeCroce) - Prohibits sale or lease of access to certain dental provider network contracts.

S2538 (Singleton, Pennacchio/Kean, Murphy, DeCroce, Armato) - Makes New Jersey National Guard members with NGB-22 form eligible for certain veterans' benefits.

S2660 (Gopal, Sarlo/Downey, Houghtaling, Schaer) - Establishes grant program and tuition reimbursement program for certain teachers of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; appropriates \$5 million to DOE.

Copy of Statement on S2660

S2690 (Ruiz, Cryan, Beach, Turner, Andrzejczak/McKeon, Dancer, Land) - Prohibits pharmacy benefits managers and carriers from engaging in "clawback" and "gag clause" practices; requires certain disclosures by pharmacists; requires Director of Division of Consumer Affairs to conduct public information campaign.

S2691 (Kean, Cunningham/Quijano, Vainieri Huttle, Reynolds-Jackson) - Makes supplemental appropriation of \$100,000 to Commission on Human Trafficking.

Copy of Statement on S2691

S3100 (Weinberg, Addiego/Benson, Vainieri Huttle, Mukherji) - Revises definition of hemophilia and expands hemophilia treatment program.

SJR73 (Singleton/Murphy, Verrelli, Dancer) - Urges U.S. Congress to pass "Military Hunger Prevention Act."

Governor Murphy conditionally vetoed the following bills:

A3717 (Mukherji, Downey, Houghtaling/Greenstein, Gopal) - Prohibits pharmacy benefits managers from making certain retroactive reductions in claims payments to pharmacies; requires pharmacy benefits managers to disclose certain product information to pharmacies.

Copy of Statement on A3717

A5363 (Burzichelli, Benson, Murphy/Gopal) - Requires carriers that offer health benefits plans to provide new or existing subscribers with notification of certain hospital and health system contract expirations.

Copy of Statement on A5363

S834 (Scutari, Greenstein/Jones, Pintor Marin) - Prohibits resale of non-prescription diabetes test devices by pharmacists.

Copy of Statement on S834

S2804 (Ruiz, Turner/Lopez, McKnight, Verrelli) - Requires young children entering public schools or Head Start Programs for first time to have comprehensive eye examination completed.

Copy of Statement on S2804

S3075 (Weinberg, Ruiz/Lampitt, Mukherji, Vainieri Huttle) - Requires DOH to regulate and license embryo storage facilities.

Copy of Statement on S3075

S3309 (Vitale, Greenstein/Greenwald, Pintor Marin, Reynolds-Jackson) - Establishes New Jersey Violence Intervention Program to fund violence reduction initiatives.

Copy of Statement on S3309

S3330 (Addiego, Singleton/Jones, Vainieri Huttle, Lampitt, Murphy) - Establishes pilot program in DCF to study impact of child care services provided by community providers operating in public school facilities; requires community providers to meet certain criteria.

Copy of Statement on S3330

S3661 (Singleton, Oroho/Jasey, Wirths, Webber) - Clarifies assessment payment and election participation requirements in planned real estate developments.

Copy of Statement on S3661

Governor Murphy absolute vetoed the following bills and resolutions:

A4135 (Land, Taliaferro/Sweeney, Andrzejczak) - Concerns use of digital parking meters to monitor parking compliance; establishes fund to encourage designated drivers.

Copy of Statement on A4135

AJR158 (Houghtaling, Downey, Mosquera/Gopal) - Establishes New Jersey Task Force on Medicaid Financial

Resource Limits.

Copy of Statement on AJR158

S1364 (Andrzejczak/Land, Milam) - Provides funding from the General Fund to the Greater Wildwoods Tourism Improvement and Development Authority; appropriates \$4 million.

Copy of Statement on S1364