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FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

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REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: Yes

Susan K. Livio nj advance media, "THRIVING BY 3 ACT' ok'ED Guv signs child tax credit bill, more to address poverty', Jersey Journal, The (online), 2 Jul 2022 003

Susan K. Livio and Brent Johnson - For The Star-Ledger, 'Package of anti-hunger bills advance; some signed Big school meal expansion is on the way as more than 760K residents lack food.', Star-Ledger, The (online), 1 Jul 2022 005

end

Title 44.
Chapter 10.
(Rename)
Assistance for
Dependent
Children, Other
Persons and
Families
§3
C.44:10-81.5
§5
Approp.

P.L. 2022, CHAPTER 26, *approved June 30, 2022*
Assembly, No. 2359 (*Second Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning applications for the Supplemental Nutrition
2 Assistance Program ¹**[and]** , amending ²the title and body of
3 P.L.2021, c.243,¹ supplementing Title 44 of the Revised Statutes
4 ¹, and making an appropriation¹ .

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

8
9 ¹1. The title of P.L.2021, c.243 is amended to read as follows:
10 AN ACT concerning **[the]** participation **[of senior citizens]** in the
11 New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and
12 supplementing Title 44 of the Revised Statutes.¹
13 (cf: P.L.2021, c.243, Title)

14
15 ¹2. Section 1 of P.L.2021, c.243 (C.44:10-81.3) is amended to
16 read as follows:

17 1. a. The Commissioner of Human Services, to the maximum
18 extent permissible under federal law, shall review and streamline
19 the SNAP application process **[for senior citizens]**, as provided in
20 this section. The goal of the streamlining process shall be to
21 **[ensure that the number of senior SNAP participants either matches**
22 **or exceeds New Jersey's overall SNAP participation rates]**
23 maximize the enrollment of eligible SNAP participants in New
24 Jersey by increasing the accessibility of the SNAP application.

25 b. In streamlining the SNAP application process **[for seniors]**,
26 as required by this section, the commissioner shall, at a minimum**[**:

27 (1) develop and make available a simplified SNAP application
28 form for use by seniors;

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted May 19, 2022.

²Senate SHH committee amendments adopted June 23, 2022.

1 (2) provide for the increased sharing of data between the State's
2 various social services programs and platforms; and

3 (3) authorize, and establish appropriate procedures to facilitate,
4 the simultaneous or cross enrollment of eligible seniors in the
5 Medicaid program and SNAP] , update the online application
6 system to ensure the system employs current technology and is user
7 friendly, with features that include, but are not limited to, easy
8 account creation, easy user access, and easy tracking of an
9 applicant's application status.

10 c. The Department of Human Services, working in consultation
11 and cooperation with [relevant senior citizen] appropriate advocacy
12 organizations, shall engage in comprehensive outreach efforts to
13 ensure that [all eligible seniors] New Jersey residents are made
14 aware of their ability to apply for and obtain SNAP benefits through
15 a streamlined and expedited process. At a minimum, the
16 department shall provide outreach at all health care facilities, social
17 service agencies that serve seniors in the State, and other
18 organizations focused on food assistance, and shall use all available
19 media, including print, radio, television, and the Internet, to inform
20 residents [on] of the availability of the streamlined SNAP
21 application process established pursuant to this section.

22 d. The Commissioner of Human Services shall apply to the
23 Food and Nutrition Service within the United States Department of
24 Agriculture for any necessary waivers or approvals to implement
25 the provisions of this section.

26 e. As used in this section:

27 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Human Services.

28 "Department" means the Department of Human Services.

29 ["Medicaid program" means the State Medicaid program,
30 established pursuant to P.L.1968, c.413 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.).

31 "Senior citizen" or "senior" means a person who is 60 years of
32 age or older.]

33 "SNAP" means the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition
34 Assistance Program, established pursuant to the federal "Food and
35 Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.).¹
36 (cf: P.L.2021, c.243, s.1)

37

38 ¹[1.] 3. (New section)¹ a. ¹[The commissioner, to the
39 maximum extent permissible under federal law, shall review and
40 streamline the SNAP application process, as provided in this
41 section. The goal of the streamlining shall be to maximize the
42 enrollment of eligible SNAP participants in this State by increasing
43 the accessibility of the SNAP application.

44 b. In streamlining the SNAP application process, as required by
45 this section, the commissioner shall, at a minimum, update the
46 online application system to ensure the system employs current
47 technology and is user-friendly, with features that include, but are

1 not limited to, easy account creation and access and improved
2 tracking of an applicant's application status.

3 c.]¹ The ¹~~department~~ Department of Human Services¹ shall
4 ¹~~maintain~~ establish ²a two-year demonstration project, pursuant
5 to which the department shall establish and maintain¹² a call
6 center where department employees ¹~~,~~ or persons under contract
7 with the department,¹ ², or persons under contract with the
8 department² are available in real-time to assist individuals in:

- 9 (1) navigating the SNAP application process;
- 10 (2) checking on the status of an application; and
- 11 (3) troubleshooting any issues with the application.

12 ¹b. ²No later than 18 months after the effective date of P.L. _____,
13 c. (C. _____) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), the
14 commissioner shall prepare and submit a report to the Governor
15 and, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the
16 Legislature, concerning the commissioner's findings concerning the
17 effectiveness of the call center established pursuant to subsection a.
18 of this section and the commissioner's recommendations as to
19 whether the call center should be reauthorized pursuant to
20 subsection c. of this section, as well as recommendations for any
21 changes to the nature, duties, or operation of the call center upon
22 reauthorization.

23 c. The call center established pursuant to subsection a. of this
24 section shall expire two years after the effective date of this act, but
25 may be reauthorized by the adoption of legislation reauthorizing the
26 call center, with or without changes to the nature, duties, or
27 operation of the call center.¹

28 d.]²The commissioner shall apply to the Food and Nutrition
29 Service within the United States Department of Agriculture for any
30 necessary waivers or approvals to implement the provisions of this
31 section.

32 ²~~e.] c.~~² As used in this section:

33 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Human Services.

34 "Department" means the Department of Human Services ¹~~[""]~~.¹

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

38
39 ¹~~2.~~ The Commissioner of Human Services shall adopt rules and
40 regulations, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"
41 P.L.1968, c.140 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), as may be necessary to
42 effectuate the provisions of this act.]¹

43

44 ¹4. Section 2 of P.L.2021, c.243 (C.44:10-81.4) is amended to
45 read as follows:

46 2. The Commissioner of Human Services ~~shall~~ may adopt
47 rules and regulations ~~,~~ pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure

1 Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.),² pursuant to the
2 “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
3 seq.),² as may be necessary to implement the provisions of this act
4 and P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill) ²],
5 which rules and regulations shall be effective immediately upon
6 filing with the Office of Administrative Law for a period not to
7 exceed 18 months, and may, thereafter, be amended, adopted, or
8 readopted in accordance with the provisions of the “Administrative
9 Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.)² .¹
10 (cf: P.L.2021, c.243, s.2)

11

12 ¹5. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
13 Department of Human Services the sum of \$750,000 for the purpose
14 of implementing the provisions of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
15 before the Legislature as this bill).¹

16

17 ¹[3.] 6.¹ This act shall take effect immediately.

18

19

20

21

22 Provides for streamlining of SNAP application process and
23 establishes SNAP application call center; appropriates \$750,000.

ASSEMBLY, No. 2359

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 7, 2022

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman CLEOPATRA G. TUCKER

District 28 (Essex)

Assemblyman WILLIAM F. MOEN, JR.

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

Assemblywoman SHAMA A. HAIDER

District 37 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Atkins

SYNOPSIS

Provides for streamlining of SNAP application process and establishes SNAP application call center.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/28/2022)

1 AN ACT concerning applications for the Supplemental Nutrition
2 Assistance Program and supplementing Title 44 of the Revised
3 Statutes.

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

7
8 1. a. The commissioner, to the maximum extent permissible
9 under federal law, shall review and streamline the SNAP
10 application process, as provided in this section. The goal of the
11 streamlining shall be to maximize the enrollment of eligible SNAP
12 participants in this State by increasing the accessibility of the SNAP
13 application.

14 b. In streamlining the SNAP application process, as required by
15 this section, the commissioner shall, at a minimum, update the
16 online application system to ensure the system employs current
17 technology and is user-friendly, with features that include, but are
18 not limited to, easy account creation and access and improved
19 tracking of an applicant's application status.

20 c. The department shall maintain a call center where department
21 employees, or persons under contract with the department, are
22 available in real-time to assist individuals in:

- 23 (1) navigating the SNAP application process;
24 (2) checking on the status of an application; and
25 (3) troubleshooting any issues with the application.

26 d. The commissioner shall apply to the Food and Nutrition
27 Service within the United States Department of Agriculture for any
28 necessary waivers or approvals to implement the provisions of this
29 section.

30 e. As used in this section:

31 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Human Services.

32 "Department" means the Department of Human Services"

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

36
37 2. The Commissioner of Human Services shall adopt rules and
38 regulations, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"
39 P.L.1968, c.140 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), as may be necessary to
40 effectuate the provisions of this act.

41
42 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

43
44
45 **STATEMENT**

46
47 This bill would require the Commissioner of Human Services to
48 review and streamline the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition

1 Assistance Program (SNAP) application process, to the maximum
2 extent permissible under federal law. The goal of the streamlining
3 is to maximize the enrollment of eligible SNAP participants in this
4 State by increasing the accessibility of the SNAP application.

5 In streamlining the SNAP application process, the commissioner
6 would be required to, at a minimum, update the online application
7 system to ensure the system employs current technology and is
8 user-friendly, with features that include, but are not limited to, easy
9 account creation, and access and improved tracking of an
10 applicant's application status.

11 The bill would also require the Department of Human Services to
12 maintain a call center where department employees, or persons
13 under contract with the department, are available in real-time to
14 assist individuals in navigating the SNAP application process,
15 checking on the status of an application, and troubleshooting any
16 issues with the application. Finally, the bill would require the
17 Commissioner of Human Services to apply to the Food and
18 Nutrition Service within the United States Department of
19 Agriculture for any necessary waivers or approvals to implement
20 the provisions of the bill.

ASSEMBLY AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 2359

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 14, 2022

The Assembly Agriculture and Food Security Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 2359.

This bill would require the Commissioner of Human Services to review and streamline the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) application process, to the maximum extent permissible under federal law. The goal of the streamlining is to maximize the enrollment of eligible SNAP participants in this State by increasing the accessibility of the SNAP application.

In streamlining the SNAP application process, the commissioner would be required to, at a minimum, update the online application system to ensure the system employs current technology and is user-friendly, with features that include, but are not limited to, easy account creation, and access and improved tracking of an applicant's application status.

The bill would also require the Department of Human Services to maintain a call center where department employees, or persons under contract with the department, are available in real-time to assist individuals in navigating the SNAP application process, checking on the status of an application, and troubleshooting any issues with the application. Finally, the bill would require the Commissioner of Human Services to apply to the Food and Nutrition Service within the United States Department of Agriculture for any necessary waivers or approvals to implement the provisions of the bill.

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 2359

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 19, 2022

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 2359.

As amended, this bill amends an existing law, section 1 of P.L.2021, c.243 (C.44:10-81.3), which requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to establish a streamlined New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) application process for seniors, to instead require the application process be streamlined for all residents of New Jersey. The goal of streamlining the application process is to maximize the enrollment of eligible SNAP participants in New Jersey .

In streamlining the SNAP application process, the Commissioner of Human Services will be required to, at a minimum, update the online application system to ensure the system employs current technology and is user-friendly, with features that include, but are not limited to, easy account creation, easy access, and easy tracking of an applicant's application status.

As amended, the bill requires the DHS to establish a two-year demonstration project under which the DHS will establish and maintain a call center where department employees are available in real-time to assist individuals in navigating the SNAP application process, checking on the status of an application, and troubleshooting any issues with the application. The call center will expire two years after the effective date of the bill, but may be reauthorized by the adoption of legislation reauthorizing the call center, with or without changes to the nature, duties, or operation of the call center.

No later than 18 months after the effective date of the bill, the commissioner will be required to prepare and submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature with the commissioner's findings concerning the effectiveness of the call center and recommendations as to whether the call center should be reauthorized.

The bill directs the commissioner to apply to the Food and Nutrition Service within the United States Department of Agriculture for any necessary waivers or approvals to implement the provisions of the bill.

The bill amends the rulemaking section of P.L.2021, c.243 to grant the commissioner the authority to adopt implementing rules and

regulations immediately upon filing the rules and regulations with the Office of Administrative Law. The rules and regulations will remain in effect for 18 months and may be reauthorized, with or without amendments, in accordance with the provisions of the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.). The bill provides that these rules and regulations will apply both to P.L.2021, c.243 and to the provisions of this bill.

As amended, the bill appropriates \$750,000 from the General Fund to the DHS for the purposes of implementing the bill.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amendments revise the bill to amend P.L.2021, c.243, which overlaps with certain provisions of the bill as introduced, to merge the provisions of that enactment with the provisions of this bill. Specifically, the amendments:

(1) remove from P.L.2021, c.243 references to a streamlined application process for senior citizens and instead makes the streamlined application process applicable to all New Jersey residents;

(2) remove the requirements for the streamlined application process set forth in P.L.2021, c.243 to include a simplified application form, increased data sharing, and cross-enrollment in Medicaid; and replace those requirements the requirements for the streamlined application process provided in the bill as introduced, which include easy account creation, easy access, and easy tracking of the applicant’s status;

(3) provide that, instead of expanding senior citizen participation rates in SNAP, the purpose of the streamlined application process is to maximize enrollment of eligible SNAP participants in New Jersey.

The committee amendments revise the bill to provide that, in lieu of establishing a permanent call center, the DHS will be required to create a two-year call center demonstration project. The amendments remove a provision allowing the DHS to contract out to staff the call center; as amended, the call center will be staffed by DHS personnel. The amendments provide that the call center will expire after two years, but may be reauthorized legislatively, with or without changes to the nature, duties, or operation of the call center.

The committee amendments add a requirement for the Commissioner of Human Services to report to the Governor and the Legislature concerning the effectiveness of the call center and recommendations as to whether the call center should be reauthorized.

The committee amendments revise the rulemaking provisions of P.L.2021, c.243 to grant the DHS emergency rulemaking authority, and to provide that the rulemaking section applies both to that enactment and to this bill.

The committee amendments add a section appropriating \$750,000 to the DHS to implement the provisions of the bill.

The committee amendments revise the title and synopsis of the bill to reflect the changes made by the committee.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services determines that the Department of Human Services would potentially incur higher administrative costs in order to update the online application system for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to ensure that the system utilizes current technology and incorporates user-friendly features including easy account creation and access, and improved tracking of an applicant's application status. State revenues, additionally, would likely increase under the bill, since the federal government provides matching funds for qualifying State administrative expenditures under SNAP.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 2359

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

DATED: MAY 26, 2022

SUMMARY

- Synopsis:** Provides for streamlining of SNAP application process and establishes SNAP application call center demonstration project; appropriates \$750,000.
- Type of Impact:** State and county expenditure increase. State revenue increase.
- Agencies Affected:** Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services; County Welfare Agencies.

Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	<u>Years 1 through 2 After Enactment</u>
State Expenditure Increase	Indeterminate, Minimum \$750,000
County Expenditure Increase	Indeterminate
State Revenue Increase	Indeterminate

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes the Division of Family Development (DFD) in the Department of Human Services (DHS), along with county welfare agencies (CWAs), will experience indeterminate increases in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) administrative expenditures to comply with the provisions of the bill. The OLS assumes that the appropriation of \$750,000 under the bill represents the minimum cost of the bill to the State.
- The federal government shares all administrative expenses of SNAP with the State. As such, the bill will also result in a State revenue increase from federal SNAP administrative funds, to the extent that the State expenditures qualify for a federal match. Any increase in SNAP benefits under the bill would not have any fiscal impact on the State, as SNAP benefits are paid directly from federal funds.
- While the OLS cannot quantify the total cost of the bill, it is possible that federal funds distributed to the State for SNAP administration under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, which do not require a State match, may be sufficient to provide for any additional expenses above the \$750,000 appropriation and any qualifying federal SNAP administrative match.

BILL DESCRIPTION

This bill amends an existing law, which requires the DHS to establish a streamlined SNAP application process for seniors, to instead require the application process be streamlined for all residents of New Jersey. In streamlining the SNAP application process, the Commissioner of Human Services will be required to, at a minimum, update the online application system to ensure the system employs current technology and is user-friendly, with features that include, but are not limited to, easy account creation, easy access, and easy tracking of an applicant's application status. The bill also amends the existing law to provide that the DHS, working in consultation and cooperation with appropriate advocacy organizations, is required to engage in comprehensive outreach efforts to ensure that New Jersey residents, not just eligible seniors as required under current law, are made aware of their ability to apply for and obtain SNAP benefits through a streamlined and expedited process.

The bill also requires the DHS to establish a two-year demonstration project under which the department will establish and maintain a call center to assist individuals in navigating the SNAP application process, checking on the status of an application, and troubleshooting any issues with the application.

No later than 18 months after the effective date of the bill, the commissioner will be required to prepare and submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature with the commissioner's findings concerning the effectiveness of the call center and recommendations as to whether the call center should be reauthorized.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

None received.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

SNAP is federally regulated by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA); however, the DFD works with CWAs to administer the program on a State level. As such, the OLS concludes that the DFD and county governments will incur an indeterminate amount of administrative costs to comply with the bill's provisions. The OLS assumes that the appropriation of \$750,000 under the bill represents the minimum cost of the bill to the State.

The federal government shares all administrative expenses of SNAP with the State. As such, the bill will also result in an indeterminate State revenue increase from federal SNAP administrative funds, to the extent that the State expenditures qualify for a federal match. Any increase in SNAP benefits under the bill would not have any fiscal impact on the State, as SNAP benefits are paid directly from federal funds.

One-time expenses under the bill include streamlining the SNAP application process; engaging in a comprehensive SNAP outreach effort; and complying with the bill's reporting requirements. Additional costs will be incurred over the two-year period following enactment in establishing and maintaining a temporary SNAP call center. Currently, SNAP beneficiaries can contact CWAs to inquire about SNAP application issues. It may be possible that the DFD will be able to utilize the existing services provided by the CWAs to minimize the cost of establishing a call center. For

example, calls received by the call center may be able to be rerouted to the applicable CWA for response. It is likely, however, that additional staff will be required to respond to incoming calls, whether on a State or county level.

While the OLS cannot quantify the total cost of the bill, it is possible that federal funds distributed to the State for SNAP administration under the ARP Act of 2021, which do not require a State match, may be sufficient to provide for any additional expenses above the \$750,000 appropriation and any qualifying federal SNAP administrative match. Specifically, the federal ARP Act of 2021 provides \$1.135 billion over a three-year period for state SNAP administrative costs to help accommodate the increased demand for benefits resulting from the COVID pandemic. Between FY 2021 and FY 2023, New Jersey is scheduled to receive \$21 million from this source. By comparison, total SNAP administrative costs for FY 2019 in New Jersey were \$326.8 million. Guidance from USDA directs states to use these funds for the following purposes, which also coincide with the provisions of this bill: investments in technology to improve client access to SNAP; investments in employees to provide the necessary training to modernize customer service delivery; explore opportunities to improve service delivery and access to vulnerable populations; and revise SNAP outreach materials to ensure program information is easy to find, clear, and concise. To the extent that the department uses the ARP funds to fulfill any provisions of the bill, costs incurred by the State or County, as well as federal revenue received for SNAP administrative expenses, will decrease.

Section: Human Services

*Analyst: Sarah M. Schmidt
Senior Research Analyst*

*Approved: Thomas Koenig
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.).

SENATE HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND SENIOR
CITIZENS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 2359

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 23, 2022

The Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 2359 (1R).

As amended, this bill amends an existing law, section 1 of P.L.2021, c.243 (C.44:10-81.3), which requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to establish a streamlined New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) application process for seniors, to instead require the application process be streamlined for all residents of New Jersey. The goal of streamlining the application process is to maximize the enrollment of eligible SNAP participants in New Jersey.

In streamlining the SNAP application process, the Commissioner of Human Services will be required to, at a minimum, update the online application system to ensure the system employs current technology and is user-friendly, with features that include, but are not limited to, easy account creation, easy access, and easy tracking of an applicant's application status.

As amended, the bill additionally requires the DHS to establish a call center where DHS employees or persons under contract with the DHS will be available, in real-time, to assist individuals in navigating the SNAP application process, checking on the status of an application, and troubleshooting any issues with the application.

The bill directs the commissioner to apply to the Food and Nutrition Service within the United States Department of Agriculture for any necessary waivers or approvals to implement the provisions of the bill.

As amended, the bill revises the rulemaking section of P.L.2021, c.243 to provide that the rules and regulations adopted by the DHS will apply both to P.L.2021, c.243 and to the provisions of this bill.

The bill appropriates \$750,000 from the General Fund to the DHS for the purposes of implementing the bill.

As reported by the committee with amendments, Assembly Bill No. 2359 (1R) is identical to Senate Bill No. 2034, which was also reported by the committee on this date with amendments.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amendments revise the bill to require the DHS to establish a permanent call center, rather than a two-year demonstration project. The amendments remove sections setting forth the expiration date for the call center and requiring the DHS to issue a report concerning its findings and recommendations with regard to the call center.

The committee amendments restore language, which was in the bill as introduced, authorizing the DHS to staff the call center with persons under contract with the DHS.

The committee amendments remove language from the section of the bill revising the rules and regulations section of P.L.2021, c.243 granting the DHS emergency rulemaking authority, and restore language directing that rules and regulations to implement that law and the current bill be adopted pursuant to the requirements of the “Administrative Procedure Act.”

The committee amendments make a technical change to the title of the bill to reflect that it is amending both the title and body of P.L.2021, c.243.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

[Second Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 2359

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

DATED: JULY 5, 2022

SUMMARY

- Synopsis:** Provides for streamlining of SNAP application process and establishes SNAP application call center; appropriates \$750,000.
- Type of Impact:** State and county expenditure increase. State revenue increase.
- Agencies Affected:** Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services; County Welfare Agencies.

Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	<u>Annual</u>
State Expenditure Increase	Indeterminate, Minimum \$750,000
County Expenditure Increase	Indeterminate
State Revenue Increase	Indeterminate

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes the Division of Family Development (DFD) in the Department of Human Services (DHS), along with county welfare agencies (CWAs), will experience indeterminate annual increases in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) administrative expenditures to comply with the provisions of the bill. The OLS assumes that the appropriation of \$750,000 under the bill represents the minimum cost of the bill to the State.
- The federal government shares all administrative expenses of SNAP with the State. As such, the bill will also result in a State revenue increase from federal SNAP administrative funds, to the extent that the State expenditures qualify for a federal match. Any increase in SNAP benefits under the bill would not have any fiscal impact on the State, as SNAP benefits are paid directly from federal funds.
- While the OLS cannot quantify the total cost of the bill, it is possible that federal funds distributed to the State for SNAP administration under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, which do not require a State match, may be sufficient to provide for any additional

expenses above the \$750,000 appropriation and any qualifying federal SNAP administrative match.

BILL DESCRIPTION

This bill amends an existing law, which requires the DHS to establish a streamlined SNAP application process for seniors, to instead require the application process be streamlined for all residents of New Jersey. In streamlining the SNAP application process, the Commissioner of Human Services will be required to, at a minimum, update the online application system to ensure the system employs current technology and is user-friendly, with features that include, but are not limited to, easy account creation, easy access, and easy tracking of an applicant's application status. The bill also amends the existing law to provide that the DHS, working in consultation and cooperation with appropriate advocacy organizations, is required to engage in comprehensive outreach efforts to ensure that New Jersey residents, not just eligible seniors as required under current law, are made aware of their ability to apply for and obtain SNAP benefits through a streamlined and expedited process.

The bill also requires the DHS to establish a SNAP application call center where department employees, or persons under contract with the department, are available in real time to assist individuals in navigating the SNAP application process, checking on the status of an application, and troubleshooting any issues with the application.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

None received.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

SNAP is federally regulated by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA); however, the DFD works with CWAs to administer the program on a State level. As such, the OLS concludes that the DFD and county governments will incur an indeterminate amount of annual administrative costs to comply with the bill's provisions. The OLS assumes that the appropriation of \$750,000 under the bill represents the minimum cost of the bill to the State.

The federal government shares all administrative expenses of SNAP with the State. As such, the bill will also result in an indeterminate State revenue increase from federal SNAP administrative funds, to the extent that the State expenditures qualify for a federal match. Any increase in SNAP benefits under the bill would not have any fiscal impact on the State, as SNAP benefits are paid directly from federal funds.

One-time expenses under the bill include streamlining the SNAP application process and engaging in a comprehensive SNAP outreach effort. Additional annual costs will be incurred in establishing and maintaining a SNAP application call center. In addition to an initial application, beneficiaries also need to recertify SNAP benefits at least once every 12 months or every 24 months, depending on the beneficiary. This estimate assumes that the call center will serve as a resource for recertifying applicants, as well as initial applicants. For reference, as of April 2022, there are 866,381 individuals and 450,356 households participating in the SNAP program.

Currently, SNAP beneficiaries can contact CWAs to inquire about SNAP application issues. It may be possible that the DFD will be able to utilize the existing services provided by the CWAs to minimize the cost of establishing a call center. For example, calls received by the call center may be able to be rerouted to the applicable CWA for response. It is likely, however, that additional staff will be required to respond to incoming calls, whether on a State or county level.

While the OLS cannot quantify the total cost of the bill, it is possible that federal funds distributed to the State for SNAP administration under the ARP Act of 2021, which do not require a State match, may be sufficient to provide for any additional expenses above the \$750,000 appropriation and any qualifying federal SNAP administrative match. Specifically, the federal ARP Act of 2021 provides \$1.135 billion over a three-year period for state SNAP administrative costs to help accommodate the increased demand for benefits resulting from the COVID pandemic. Between FY 2021 and FY 2023, New Jersey is scheduled to receive \$21 million from this source. By comparison, total SNAP administrative costs for FY 2019 in New Jersey were \$326.8 million. Guidance from USDA directs states to use these funds for the following purposes, which also coincide with the provisions of this bill: investments in technology to improve client access to SNAP; investments in employees to provide the necessary training to modernize customer service delivery; explore opportunities to improve service delivery and access to vulnerable populations; and revise SNAP outreach materials to ensure program information is easy to find, clear, and concise. To the extent that the department uses the ARP funds to fulfill any provisions of the bill, costs incurred by the State or County, as well as federal revenue received for SNAP administrative expenses, will decrease.

Section: Human Services

*Analyst: Sarah M. Schmidt
Lead Research Analyst*

*Approved: Thomas Koenig
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.).

SENATE, No. 2034

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 3, 2022

Sponsored by:

Senator NILSA I. CRUZ-PEREZ

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

Senator NELLIE POU

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Ruiz

SYNOPSIS

Provides for streamlining of SNAP application process and establishes SNAP application call center.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/13/2022)

1 AN ACT concerning applications for the Supplemental Nutrition
2 Assistance Program and supplementing Title 44 of the Revised
3 Statutes.

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

7
8 1. a. The commissioner, to the maximum extent permissible
9 under federal law, shall review and streamline the SNAP
10 application process, as provided in this section. The goal of the
11 streamlining shall be to maximize the enrollment of eligible SNAP
12 participants in this State by increasing the accessibility of the SNAP
13 application.

14 b. In streamlining the SNAP application process, as required by
15 this section, the commissioner shall, at a minimum, update the
16 online application system to ensure the system employs current
17 technology and is user-friendly, with features that include, but are
18 not limited to, easy account creation and access and improved
19 tracking of an applicant's application status.

20 c. The department shall maintain a call center where
21 department employees, or persons under contract with the
22 department, are available in real-time to assist individuals in:

- 23 (1) navigating the SNAP application process;
24 (2) checking on the status of an application; and
25 (3) troubleshooting any issues with the application.

26 d. The commissioner shall apply to the Food and Nutrition
27 Service within the United States Department of Agriculture for any
28 necessary waivers or approvals to implement the provisions of this
29 section.

30 e. As used in this section:

31 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Human Services.

32 "Department" means the Department of Human Services"

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

36
37 2. The Commissioner of Human Services shall adopt rules and
38 regulations, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"
39 P.L.1968, c.140 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), as may be necessary to
40 effectuate the provisions of this act.

41
42 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

43
44

45 STATEMENT

46
47 This bill would require the Commissioner of Human Services to
48 review and streamline the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition

1 Assistance Program (SNAP) application process, to the maximum
2 extent permissible under federal law. The goal of the streamlining
3 is to maximize the enrollment of eligible SNAP participants in this
4 State by increasing the accessibility of the SNAP application.

5 In streamlining the SNAP application process, the commissioner
6 would be required to, at a minimum, update the online application
7 system to ensure the system employs current technology and is
8 user-friendly, with features that include, but are not limited to, easy
9 account creation, and access and improved tracking of an
10 applicant's application status.

11 The bill would also require the Department of Human Services to
12 maintain a call center where department employees, or persons
13 under contract with the department, are available in real-time to
14 assist individuals in navigating the SNAP application process,
15 checking on the status of an application, and troubleshooting any
16 issues with the application. Finally, the bill would require the
17 Commissioner of Human Services to apply to the Food and
18 Nutrition Service within the United States Department of
19 Agriculture for any necessary waivers or approvals to implement
20 the provisions of the bill.

SENATE HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND SENIOR
CITIZENS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
SENATE, No. 2034

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 23, 2022

The Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 2034.

As amended, this bill amends an existing law, section 1 of P.L.2021, c.243 (C.44:10-81.3), which requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to establish a streamlined New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) application process for seniors, to instead require the application process be streamlined for all residents of New Jersey. The goal of streamlining the application process is to maximize the enrollment of eligible SNAP participants in New Jersey.

In streamlining the SNAP application process, the Commissioner of Human Services will be required to, at a minimum, update the online application system to ensure the system employs current technology and is user-friendly, with features that include, but are not limited to, easy account creation, easy access, and easy tracking of an applicant's application status.

As amended, the bill additionally requires the DHS to establish a call center where DHS employees or persons under contract with the DHS will be available, in real-time, to assist individuals in navigating the SNAP application process, checking on the status of an application, and troubleshooting any issues with the application.

The bill directs the commissioner to apply to the Food and Nutrition Service within the United States Department of Agriculture for any necessary waivers or approvals to implement the provisions of the bill.

As amended, the bill revises the rulemaking section of P.L.2021, c.243 to provide that the rules and regulations adopted by the DHS will apply both to P.L.2021, c.243 and to the provisions of this bill.

As amended, the bill appropriates \$750,000 from the General Fund to the DHS for the purposes of implementing the bill.

As reported by the committee with amendments, Senate Bill No. 2034 is identical to Assembly Bill No. 2359 (1R), which was also reported by the committee on this date with amendments.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amendments revise the bill to amend P.L.2021, c.243, which overlaps with certain provisions of the bill as introduced, to merge the provisions of that enactment with the provisions of this bill. Specifically, the amendments:

(1) remove from P.L.2021, c.243 references to a streamlined application process for senior citizens and instead make the streamlined application process applicable to all New Jersey residents;

(2) remove the requirements for the streamlined application process set forth in P.L.2021, c.243 to include a simplified application form, increased data sharing, and cross-enrollment in Medicaid; and replace those requirements with the requirements for the streamlined application process provided in the bill as introduced, which include easy account creation, easy access, and easy tracking of the applicant's status;

(3) provide that, instead of expanding senior citizen participation rates in SNAP, the purpose of the streamlined application process is to maximize enrollment of eligible SNAP participants in New Jersey.

The committee amendments revise the provisions of the bill concerning the call center to replace language requiring the DHS to maintain the call center with language requiring the DHS to establish the call center.

The committee amendments revise the rulemaking provisions of P.L.2021, c.243 to provide that the rulemaking section applies both to that enactment and to this bill.

The committee amendments add a section appropriating \$750,000 to the DHS to implement the provisions of the bill.

The committee amendments revise the title and synopsis of the bill to reflect the changes made by these amendments.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 2034

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

DATED: JULY 5, 2022

SUMMARY

- Synopsis:** Provides for streamlining of SNAP application process and establishes SNAP application call center; appropriates \$750,000.
- Type of Impact:** State and county expenditure increase. State revenue increase.
- Agencies Affected:** Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services; County Welfare Agencies.

Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	<u>Annual</u>
State Expenditure Increase	Indeterminate, Minimum \$750,000
County Expenditure Increase	Indeterminate
State Revenue Increase	Indeterminate

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes the Division of Family Development (DFD) in the Department of Human Services (DHS), along with county welfare agencies (CWAs), will experience indeterminate annual increases in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) administrative expenditures to comply with the provisions of the bill. The OLS assumes that the appropriation of \$750,000 under the bill represents the minimum cost of the bill to the State.
- The federal government shares all administrative expenses of SNAP with the State. As such, the bill will also result in a State revenue increase from federal SNAP administrative funds, to the extent that the State expenditures qualify for a federal match. Any increase in SNAP benefits under the bill would not have any fiscal impact on the State, as SNAP benefits are paid directly from federal funds.
- While the OLS cannot quantify the total cost of the bill, it is possible that federal funds distributed to the State for SNAP administration under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, which do not require a State match, may be sufficient to provide for any additional

expenses above the \$750,000 appropriation and any qualifying federal SNAP administrative match.

BILL DESCRIPTION

This bill amends an existing law, which requires the DHS to establish a streamlined SNAP application process for seniors, to instead require the application process be streamlined for all residents of New Jersey. In streamlining the SNAP application process, the Commissioner of Human Services will be required to, at a minimum, update the online application system to ensure the system employs current technology and is user-friendly, with features that include, but are not limited to, easy account creation, easy access, and easy tracking of an applicant's application status. The bill also amends the existing law to provide that the DHS, working in consultation and cooperation with appropriate advocacy organizations, is required to engage in comprehensive outreach efforts to ensure that New Jersey residents, not just eligible seniors as required under current law, are made aware of their ability to apply for and obtain SNAP benefits through a streamlined and expedited process.

The bill also requires the DHS to establish a SNAP application call center where department employees, or persons under contract with the department, are available in real time to assist individuals in navigating the SNAP application process, checking on the status of an application, and troubleshooting any issues with the application.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

None received.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

SNAP is federally regulated by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA); however, the DFD works with CWAs to administer the program on a State level. As such, the OLS concludes that the DFD and county governments will incur an indeterminate amount of annual administrative costs to comply with the bill's provisions. The OLS assumes that the appropriation of \$750,000 under the bill represents the minimum cost of the bill to the State.

The federal government shares all administrative expenses of SNAP with the State. As such, the bill will also result in an indeterminate State revenue increase from federal SNAP administrative funds, to the extent that the State expenditures qualify for a federal match. Any increase in SNAP benefits under the bill would not have any fiscal impact on the State, as SNAP benefits are paid directly from federal funds.

One-time expenses under the bill include streamlining the SNAP application process and engaging in a comprehensive SNAP outreach effort. Additional annual costs will be incurred in establishing and maintaining a SNAP application call center. In addition to an initial application, beneficiaries also need to recertify SNAP benefits at least once every 12 months or every 24 months, depending on the beneficiary. This estimate assumes that the call center will serve as a resource for recertifying applicants, as well as initial applicants. For reference, as of April 2022, there are 866,381 individuals and 450,356 households participating in the SNAP program.

Currently, SNAP beneficiaries can contact CWAs to inquire about SNAP application issues. It may be possible that the DFD will be able to utilize the existing services provided by the CWAs to minimize the cost of establishing a call center. For example, calls received by the call center may be able to be rerouted to the applicable CWA for response. It is likely, however, that additional staff will be required to respond to incoming calls, whether on a State or county level.

While the OLS cannot quantify the total cost of the bill, it is possible that federal funds distributed to the State for SNAP administration under the ARP Act of 2021, which do not require a State match, may be sufficient to provide for any additional expenses above the \$750,000 appropriation and any qualifying federal SNAP administrative match. Specifically, the federal ARP Act of 2021 provides \$1.135 billion over a three-year period for state SNAP administrative costs to help accommodate the increased demand for benefits resulting from the COVID pandemic. Between FY 2021 and FY 2023, New Jersey is scheduled to receive \$21 million from this source. By comparison, total SNAP administrative costs for FY 2019 in New Jersey were \$326.8 million. Guidance from USDA directs states to use these funds for the following purposes, which also coincide with the provisions of this bill: investments in technology to improve client access to SNAP; investments in employees to provide the necessary training to modernize customer service delivery; explore opportunities to improve service delivery and access to vulnerable populations; and revise SNAP outreach materials to ensure program information is easy to find, clear, and concise. To the extent that the department uses the ARP funds to fulfill any provisions of the bill, costs incurred by the State or County, as well as federal revenue received for SNAP administrative expenses, will decrease.

Section: Human Services

*Analyst: Sarah M. Schmidt
Lead Research Analyst*

*Approved: Thomas Koenig
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.).

Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

06/30/2022

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

2944/A-4162 (Sarlo, Ruiz/Freiman, Mosquera, Jaffer, Moriarty, Tully, Swain) - Credits \$5.2 billion to “New Jersey Debt Defeasance and Prevention Fund”; appropriates \$2.9 billion to NJ Schools Development Authority, NJ DOT, and NJT; and establishes process for authorizing future appropriations for debt defeasance and capital projects

S-1929/A-3668 (Gopal, Pennacchio/McKeon, Tully, Conaway) - Makes FY 2022 supplemental appropriation to provide State military impact aid to certain school districts

A-4403/S-2915 (Pintor Marin, Wimberly/Sarlo, Cunningham) - Makes FY 2022 supplemental appropriations of \$71,786,000

ACS for A-1522/S-2914 (Moriarty, Mosquera, Jaffer, Freiman, Lampitt, Greenwald/Madden, Gopal) - Establishes annual sales tax holiday for certain retail sales of computers, school computer supplies, school supplies, school art supplies, school instructional materials and sport or recreational equipment.

A-4401/S-2860 (Jaffer, Moriarty, Tully/Gopal, Pou) - Provides one-year waiver of certain MVC fees imposed for driver’s licenses and non-driver identification cards.

S-2861/A-4400 (Madden, Pou/Mosquera, Swain, Wimberly) - Waives fees for marriage and civil union licenses in Fiscal Year 2023; appropriates \$2 million

S-2523/ACS for A-3852 (Ruiz, Cunningham/Reynolds-Jackson, Freiman, Jaffer, Moriarty, Mosquera, Wimberly) - Provides child tax credit under gross income tax

S-2476wGR/A-4179 (Ruiz, Vitale/Coughlin, Jasey, Sumter, Quijano) - Establishes Thriving By Three Act to award competitive grants for infant and toddler child care programs; appropriates \$28 million

A-2359/S-2034 (Tucker, Moen, Haider/Cruz-Perez, Pou) - Provides for streamlining of SNAP application process and establishes SNAP application call center; appropriates \$750,000

A-2360/S-2035 (Reynolds-Jackson, Mukherji, Speight/Cunningham, Ruiz) - Eliminates requirement that participation in NJ SNAP Employment and Training Program is mandatory for certain recipients

A-2361/S-2016 (Jimenez, Sumter, Timberlake/Zwicker, Ruiz) - Requires DHS to maintain SNAP outreach plan and to conduct additional outreach programs

A-2362/S-2036 (Freiman, Mosquera, Quijano/Johnson, Ruiz) - Requires DHS to submit federal waiver request regarding time limits for certain SNAP recipients under certain circumstances

A-2363/S-2033 (Stanley, Mejia, Lopez/Pou, Ruiz) - Concerns SNAP services provided at county boards of social services and county welfare agencies; appropriates \$250,000

A-2364/S-2017 (Spearman, Pintor Marin, Atkins/Greenstein, Ruiz) - Appropriates \$813,000 to DHS to implement use of electronic benefit transfer cards in Senior Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program

A-2366/SCS for S-2156 (McKnight, Carter, Verrelli/Lagana, Pou) - Establishes State SNAP Minimum Benefit Program; appropriates \$18 million to DHS

A-2008/S-352 (Conaway, Verrelli, Benson/Gopal, Madden) - Requires health insurance carriers to provide coverage for treatment of mental health conditions and substance use disorders through collaborative care

S-2872/A-4399 (Scutari, Ruiz/Carter, Reynolds-Jackson, Murphy, Wimberly) - Establishes Behavioral Healthcare Provider Loan Redemption Program within Higher Education Student Assistance Authority; appropriates \$5 million

SCS for S-311/ACS for A-2036 (Vitale, Gopal/Benson, Verrelli, Conaway) - Establishes Statewide behavioral health crisis system of care

SCS for S-722 and 785/ACS for A-998 (Codey, Singleton/Reynolds-Jackson, Stanley, Jaffer) - Codifies and expands ARRIVE Together Pilot Program to make certain mental health services available to police responding to certain emergencies; appropriates \$2 million

S-2909/ACS for A-4374 (Diegnan/Benson, Pintor Marin, McKnight) - Authorizes DOT to compensate contractors and subcontractors affected by supply chain shortages; appropriates \$10 million

A-4405/S-2943 (Benson, Wimberly, Moen/Diegnan) - Concerns New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund Authority; increases Transportation Trust Fund spending limit by \$600 million

A-674/S-1646 (Verrelli, McKnight, McKeon/Ruiz, Pou) - Establishes New Jersey Easy Enrollment Health Insurance Program

A-3733/S-488 (Haider, Stanley, Benson/Scutari, Beach) - Authorizes student attending institution of higher education to earn credit towards graduation for serving as poll worker

ACS for A-3990/SCS for S-2593 (Stanley, Tully, Karabinchak/Diegnan, Corrado) - Provides temporary one-year extension of service life of school buses for 2022-2023 school year; authorizes chief administrator to allow one-year extension in subsequent two school years

A-4208/S-2791 (Pintor Marin, Quijano, Speight/Ruiz, Cruz-Perez) - Provides sales and use tax exemption for certain purchases made by all supermarkets and grocery stores located within urban enterprise zones

A2426/S513 (Wimberly, Reynolds-Jackson, Schaer/Cryan, Turner) - Establishes rebuttable presumption of pretrial detention for defendants who commit certain firearm offenses under Graves Act

A-4385/S-2933 (Conaway/Cryan) - Makes various revisions to law pertaining to electronic medical records and recording patients' demographic information

S-2807/A-246 (Stack, Sacco, Cunningham/McKnight, Sampson, Chaparro) - Establishes Liberty State Park Design Task Force

S-2917/A-4395 (Cruz-Perez, Stack/Pintor Marin, Freiman, Reynolds-Jackson) - Expands allowance for developers to carry forward unused tax credits under New Jersey Aspire Program

S-2921/A-4365 (Zwicker, Pou/Coughlin, Verrelli, Spearman) - Revises various provisions of Food Desert Relief Program

S-2945/ACS for A-4392 (Scutari/Pintor Marin, Sumter, Quijano, McKnight) - Concerns economic incentives for certain cannabis businesses

S-2023/A-4402 (Sarlo, Cunningham/Pintor Marin, Wimberly) - LINE ITEM - Appropriates \$50,638,729,000 in State funds and \$24,082,639,850 in federal funds for the State budget for fiscal year 2022-2023

[Copy of Statement](#)

Governor Murphy signed the following bills today, which were sent to his desk yesterday, conditionally vetoed, and then passed in concurrence with the Governor's recommendations:

S-2476/A-4179 (Ruiz, Vitale/Coughlin, Jasey, Sumter, Quijano) – CONDITIONAL - Establishes Thriving By Three Act to award competitive grants for infant and toddler child care programs; appropriates \$28 million

[Copy of Statement](#)

A-4403/S-2915 (Pintor Marin, Wimberly/Sarlo, Cunningham) – CONDITIONAL - Makes FY 2022 supplemental appropriations of \$71,786,000

[Copy of Statement](#)