LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS OF: 1998

CHAPTER:32

NJSA:44:10-79 to 44:10-85

"New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program"

BILL NO: S990 (Substituted for A1982)

SPONSOR(S): Bassano and Kenny

DATE INTRODUCED: April 27, 1998

COMMITTEE:

ASSEMBLY:~~~

SENATE: Senior Citizens

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

DATE OF PASSAGE:

ASSEMBLY: June 29, 1998 **SENATE:** June 25, 1998

DATE OF APPROVAL: June 30, 1998

THE FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL: 1st reprint

(Amendments during passage denoted by superscript numbers)

S990

SPONSORS STATEMENT: Yes (Begins on page 7 of original bill)

COMMITTEE STATEMENT:

ASSEMBLY:No

SENATE: *Yes* May 14, 1998
June 22, 1998

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS: No.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: Yes

A1982

SPONSORS STATEMENT: Yes (Begins on page 7 of original bill)

(Bill identical to S990)

COMMITTEE STATEMENT:

ASSEMBLY: Yes

June 1, 1998(Identical to Senate 5-14-98 statement for S990)

June 15, 1998

SENATE: No

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: Yes

(Identical to Fiscal Estimate for S990)

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: Yes

THE FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

To check for circulating copies contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext. 102 or refdesk@njstatelib.org

REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:

"Food stamp bill passes," 6-30-98, Trenton <u>Times</u>, p. A2.

"More immigrants gain food stamp eligibility," 7-2-98, Newark Star Ledger, p. 29.

WHITMAN, EXECUTIVE ORDER 74: (8-26-97) Mentioned in statements Yes

[First Reprint] **SENATE, No. 990**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED APRIL 27, 1998

Sponsored by:

Senator C. LOUIS BASSANO
District 21 (Essex and Union)
Senator BERNARD F. KENNY
District 33 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Blee, Bagger and Felice

SYNOPSIS

"New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program Act."

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Senior Citizens, Veterans' Affairs and Human Services Committee on May 14, 1998, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/30/1998)

1 AN ACT establishing the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp 2 Program, amending P.L.1993, c.13 and P.L.1997, c.37, and 3 supplementing Title 44 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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8 1. (New section) This act shall be known and may be cited as the 9 "New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program Act."

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- 2. (New section) As used in this act:
- 12 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Human Services.
 - "Department" means the Department of Human Services.
- "Federal food stamp program" means the federal food stamp program authorized by Title XIII of the "Food and Agriculture Act of 1977," Pub.L.95-113 (7 U.S.C.s.2011 et seq.). 16
 - "Program" means the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program established pursuant to this act.

18 19

- 20 (New section) a. There is established the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program in the Department of Human 21 Services. The purpose of the program is to provide nutritional 22 23 assistance to those categories of noncitizens who were rendered 24 ineligible for the federal food stamp program by section 402 of
- 25 Pub.L.104-193, the federal "Personal Responsibility and Work 26 Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996" (8 U.S.C.s.1612).
- b. The program shall be administered pursuant to State rules and 27 28 regulations implementing the federal food stamp program, except that 29 the eligibility criteria for noncitizens for the program provided in 30 section 4 of this act shall be used in lieu of those of the federal food 31 stamp program.

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- 33 4. (New section) a. A noncitizen shall be eligible for participation in the program if that person was: lawfully admitted into the United 34 States prior to August 22, 1996, remains lawfully present in the United 35 36 States, is ineligible for the federal food stamp program, and is one of 37 the following:
 - (1) under 18 years of age;
- 39 (2) 65 years of age or over;
- 40 (3) receiving benefits under the supplemental security income 41 program established pursuant to the federal Social Security Act,
- 42 Pub.L.92-603 (42 U.S.C.s.1381 et seq.), or determined to be an

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

Senate SSV committee amendments adopted May 14, 1998.

- 1 essential person under the supplemental security income program;
- 2 (4) mentally or physically incapacitated, as defined by regulation 3 of the commissioner, including being blind; ¹[or]¹
- 4 (5) considered unemployable under the Work First New Jersey 5 program established pursuant to P.L.1997, c.38 (C.44:10-55 et seq.) 6 ¹; or
- 7 (6) a natural or adoptive parent, stepparent or legal guardian 8 residing with that person's dependent child under the age of 18.
- 9 Unless employed, this person: shall be required to participate in a
- work activity as defined in section 3 of P.L.1997, c.38 (C.44:10-57),
- 11 which may include a program that is designed to assist the person in
- 12 <u>securing employment or preparing for employment, in accordance with</u>
- the provisions of subsection f. of section 8 of P.L.1997, c.38 (C.44:10-
- 14 <u>62); and shall be eligible for child care and other services under the</u>
- 15 Work First New Jersey program related to the work activity, except
- 16 <u>that:</u>
- (a) the person shall not be required to engage in a work activity if
 child care is unavailable for the person's dependent child in accordance
- 19 with the provisions of subsection d. of section 8 of P.L.1997, c.38
- 20 (C.44:10-62); and
- 21 (b) the person may be temporarily deferred from the work activity 22 requirement in accordance with the provisions of subsection e. of 23 section 8 of P.L.1997, c.38 (C.44:10-62)¹.
- b. To be eligible for the program, a noncitizen shall also meet one of the following criteria:
 - (1) lawfully admitted for permanent residence as an immigrant;
- 27 (2) entered the United States prior to January 1, 1972, or some
- later date as required by law, and continuously maintained residency in the United States since then, and is not ineligible for citizenship but
- 30 is considered to be lawfully admitted for permanent residence as a
- 31 result of an exercise of discretion by the United States Attorney
- 32 General:

- 33 (3) was qualified by the federal Immigration and Naturalization
- 34 Service for conditional entry into the United States after March 31,
- 35 1980 because of persecution or fear of persecution on account of race,
- 36 religion, or political opinion;
- 37 (4) was qualified by the federal Immigration and Naturalization
- 38 Service for conditional entry into the United States prior to April 1,
- 39 1980;
- 40 (5) was granted asylum through an exercise of discretion by the 41 United States Attorney General;
- 42 (6) is lawfully present in the United States as a result of an exercise
- 43 of discretion by the United States Attorney General for emergent
- 44 reasons or reasons deemed strictly in the public interest, or as a result
- 45 of a grant of parole by the United States Attorney General;
- 46 (7) the United States Attorney General has withheld deportation of

- the noncitizen because of the judgment of the United States Attorney
 General that the noncitizen would otherwise be subject to persecution
 on account of race, religion, or political opinion;
- 4 (8) has been determined as aged, blind or disabled in accordance 5 with the supplemental security income program established pursuant 6 to the federal Social Security Act, Pub.L.92-603 (42 U.S.C.s.1381 et 7 seq.), and is considered by the federal Immigration and Naturalization 8 Service to be lawfully admitted for temporary residence;
 - (9) was granted lawful temporary resident status at least five years prior to applying for the program and subsequently gained lawful permanent resident status; or

- (10) is, as of June 1, 1987 or thereafter, a special agricultural worker as defined by federal law and lawfully admitted for temporary residence.
- c. A noncitizen who is certified as eligible for the program by the department, or the agency designated by the department, shall be required to apply for United States citizenship within 60 days of the date that the noncitizen is certified as eligible for the program or within 60 days of the date the noncitizen is eligible to apply for citizenship, whichever is later, except that a noncitizen shall be exempt from the citizenship application requirement if that person is:
- (1) unable to either apply for or obtain citizenship due to a medical or physical condition as defined by regulation of the commissioner; or(2) a child under 18 years of age.
- d. An eligible noncitizen may continue to receive program benefits until that person meets the minimum residency requirements provided in federal law to apply for citizenship.
- e. A person who is required to apply for citizenship to retain eligibility for the program, but who fails to supply adequate proof to the department, or the agency designated by the department, that he has made timely application for citizenship, shall have his eligibility for the program terminated.
- f. A person who applies for citizenship, but who subsequently is determined by the federal Immigration and Naturalization Service to be ineligible for citizenship, except for a noncitizen as described in paragraph (1) of subsection c. of this section, shall have his eligibility for the program terminated at the end of the month in which the 60-day period as provided in subsection c. of this section expires.
- 5. (New section) The State shall pay the full amount of each county's administrative costs applicable to households that contain only persons eligible for the program. These costs shall be determined in accordance with the approved cost allocation plan of the department.
- 6. (New section) A noncitizen who is eligible for the federal food

- 1 stamp program shall not be eligible for the program. A noncitizen who
- 2 is ineligible for the federal food stamp program, but is eligible for the
- 3 program, and who subsequently is made eligible for the federal food
- 4 stamp program due to changes in federal law, shall lose entitlement to
- 5 benefits under the program ¹upon receipt of benefits under the federal
- 6 food stamp program¹.

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- 8 7. Section 1 of P.L.1993, c.13 (C.2C:20-35) is amended to read as 9 follows:
 - 1. As used in this act:
- "ATP card" means a document issued by a State or federal agency, to a certified household, to show the food stamp allotment a
- 13 household is authorized to receive on presentation.
- "Benefit card" means a card used or intended for use to access
- Work First New Jersey, food stamp or other benefits as determined by
- 16 the Commissioner of Human Services under the electronic benefit
- 17 distribution system established pursuant to the "Public Assistance
- 18 Electronic Benefit Distribution System Act," P.L.1985, c.501
- 19 (C.44:10-5.1 et seq.) and continued pursuant to P.L.1997, c.37
- 20 (C.44:10-71 et al.).
- 21 "Department" means the Department of Human Services.
- 22 "Food stamp coupon" means any coupon or stamp used or intended
- 23 for use in the purchase of food pursuant to the federal food stamp
- program[, 7 U.S.C.s.2011 et seq.] authorized by Title XIII of the
- 25 <u>"Food and Agriculture Act of 1977," Pub.L.95-113 (7 U.S.C.s.2011</u>
- 26 et seq.), or the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program
- 27 established pursuant to P.L. , c. (C.)(pending before the
- 28 <u>Legislature as this bill</u>).
- 29 (cf: P.L.1997, c.37, s.8)

- 31 8. Section 2 of P.L.1993, c.13 (C.2C:20-36) is amended to read as 32 follows:
- 2. If the face value of food stamp coupons or an ATP card or
- 34 benefit card is equal to or greater than \$150, an individual shall be
- 35 guilty of a crime of the fourth degree if he purposely or knowingly and
- 36 without authorization:
- a. Receives or uses the proceeds of food stamp coupons or an ATP
- 38 card or benefit card for which he has not applied or has not been
- 39 approved by the department to use;
- b. Engages in any transaction to convert food stamp coupons or an
- 41 ATP card or benefit card to other property contrary to federal and
- 42 State government rules and regulations governing the Work First New
- 43 Jersey program, the <u>federal</u> food stamp program, <u>the New Jersey</u>
- 44 <u>Supplementary Food Stamp Program</u>, or any other program included
- in the electronic benefit distribution system; or
- 46 c. Transfers food stamp coupons or an ATP card or benefit card to

1 another person who is not lawfully entitled or approved by the 2 department to use the coupons or ATP card or benefit card.

3 (cf: P.L.1997, c.37, s.9)

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- 5 9. Section 3 of P.L.1993, c.13 (C.2C:20-37) is amended to read as 6 follows:
- 3. If the face value of food stamp coupons or an ATP card or 7 8 benefit card is less than \$150, an individual shall be guilty of a 9 disorderly persons offense if he purposely or knowingly and without 10 authorization:
- 11 a. Receives or uses the proceeds of food stamp coupons or an ATP 12 card or benefit card for which he has not applied or has not been 13 approved, by the department, to use;
- 14 b. Engages in any transaction to convert food stamp coupons or an 15 ATP card or benefit card to other property contrary to federal and State government rules and regulations governing the Work First New 16 Jersey program, the <u>federal</u> food stamp program, <u>the New Jersey</u> 17 18 Supplementary Food Stamp Program, or any other program included 19 in the electronic benefit distribution system; or
- 20 c. Transfers food stamp coupons or an ATP card or benefit card to another person who is not lawfully entitled or approved, by the 22 department, to use the coupons or ATP card or benefit card.
- 23 (cf: P.L.1997, c.37, s.10)

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- 25 10. Section 5 of P.L.1997, c.37 (C.44:10-75) is amended to read 26 as follows:
- 27 5. a. The department shall implement the electronic benefit 28 distribution system established pursuant to P.L.1985, c.501 29 (C.44:10-5.1 et seq.) in every county of the State.
- 30 b. All cash assistance and food stamp benefits shall be provided through the issuance of a single benefit card utilizing the electronic 31 32 benefit distribution system. The commissioner may include additional 33 programs in this system at his discretion.
- 34 c. No charge, including a fee imposed by a terminal owner, shall be imposed upon a person receiving cash assistance, food stamp or other 35 benefits for participating in the electronic benefit transfer system, 36 37 except as follows:
 - (1) after three free cash automatic teller machine withdrawals in a month, the department may deduct a transaction fee from a recipient's account for each subsequent withdrawal;
- 41 (2) a recipient shall be required to pay a fee for a replacement benefit card in an amount to be determined by the commissioner, 42 which may be deducted from the recipient's account as determined by 43 44 the commissioner, in accordance with federal law; and
- 45 (3) in the case of a recipient who elects to receive benefits at a point-of-sale location licensed by the Department of Banking and 46

S990 [1R] BASSANO, KENNY

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- 1 Insurance pursuant to P.L.1993, c.383 (C.17:15A-30 et seq.), the
- 2 State shall pay the licensee the difference between the contracted base
- 3 transaction fee and \$1.00. The provisions of this paragraph shall
- 4 expire two years after the effective date of the single Statewide
- 5 electronic benefits distribution contract that is let pursuant to
- 6 P.L.1997, c.37 (C.44:10-71 et al.).
- 7 d. A retail establishment currently authorized to participate in the
- 8 <u>federal</u> food stamp program, or the New Jersey Supplementary Food
- 9 <u>Stamp Program established pursuant to P.L.</u>, c. (C.)(pending
- 10 <u>before the Legislature as this bill)</u>, shall be afforded the opportunity to
- 11 participate in the electronic benefit distribution system.
- e. The department shall cycle the issuance of cash assistance and
- food stamp benefits over multiple dates throughout the month in a
- 14 manner that best serves cash assistance and food stamp recipients
- 15 within the framework of the electronic benefit distribution system in
- 16 each county.
- 17 f. The commissioner shall have the discretion to determine the need
- 18 for appropriate benefit card security measures, as well as whatever
- 19 personal identification technology is included on the benefit card, to
- 20 access cash assistance, food stamp or other benefits under the
- 21 electronic benefit distribution system.
- g. A county agency shall issue a photo-identification card to each
- 23 adult recipient as a condition of receiving benefits until implementation
- 24 of the electronic benefit distribution system in that county agency.
- 25 Once a county begins to implement the electronic benefit distribution
- 26 system, the county agency shall no longer be required to issue a
- 27 photo-identification card to each adult recipient but may continue the
- 28 issuance of photo-identification cards separate from the benefit cards.
- 29 h. Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, until
- 30 such time as the electronic benefit distribution system is implemented
- 31 Statewide, contracts for the provision of food stamp coupons are not
- 32 subject to the requirements of the "Local Public Contracts Law,"
- 33 P.L.1971, c.198 (C.40A:11-1 et seq.).
- 34 (cf: P.L.1997, c.37, s.5)

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- The Commissioner of Human Services, pursuant to the
- 37 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
- 38 seq.), shall adopt rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of
- 39 this act.

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41 12. This act shall take effect on July 1, 1998.

SENATE, No. 990

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED APRIL 27, 1998

Sponsored by:

Senator C. LOUIS BASSANO
District 21 (Essex and Union)
Senator BERNARD F. KENNY
District 33 (Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

"New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program Act."

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 2	AN ACT establishing the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program, amending P.L.1993, c.13 and P.L.1997, c.37, and
3	supplementing Title 44 of the Revised Statutes.
<i>3</i>	supplementing Title 44 of the Revised Statutes.
5	BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6	of New Jersey:
7	
8	1. (New section) This act shall be known and may be cited as the
9	"New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program Act."
10	
11	2. (New section) As used in this act:
12	"Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Human Services.
13	"Department" means the Department of Human Services.
14	"Federal food stamp program" means the federal food stamp
15	program authorized by Title XIII of the "Food and Agriculture Act of
16	1977," Pub.L.95-113 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.).
17	"Program" means the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp
18	Program established pursuant to this act.
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20	3. (New section) a. There is established the New Jersey
21	Supplementary Food Stamp Program in the Department of Human
22	Services. The purpose of the program is to provide nutritional
23	assistance to those categories of noncitizens who were rendered
24	ineligible for the federal food stamp program by section 402 of
25	Pub.L.104-193, the federal "Personal Responsibility and Work
26	Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996" (8 U.S.C. s.1612).
27	b. The program shall be administered pursuant to State rules and
28	regulations implementing the federal food stamp program, except that
29	the eligibility criteria for noncitizens for the program provided in
30	section 4 of this act shall be used in lieu of those of the federal food
31	stamp program.
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33	4. (New section) a. A noncitizen shall be eligible for participation
34	in the program if that person was: lawfully admitted into the United
35	States prior to August 22, 1996, remains lawfully present in the United
36	States, is ineligible for the federal food stamp program, and is one of
37	the following:
38	(1) under 18 years of age;
39	(2) 65 years of age or over;
40	(3) receiving benefits under the supplemental security income

 $\label{lem:explanation} \textbf{EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets \cite{brackets} \cite{bracket$

program established pursuant to the federal Social Security Act,

Pub.L.92-603 (42 U.S.C. s.1381 et seq.), or determined to be an

essential person under the supplemental security income program;

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- 1 (4) mentally or physically incapacitated, as defined by regulation of 2 the commissioner, including being blind; or
 - (5) considered unemployable under the Work First New Jersey program established pursuant to P.L.1997, c.38 (C.44:10-55 et seq.).

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- b. To be eligible for the program, a noncitizen shall also meet one
 of the following criteria:
 - (1) lawfully admitted for permanent residence as an immigrant;
- 8 (2) entered the United States prior to January 1, 1972, or some 9 later date as required by law, and continuously maintained residency 10 in the United States since then, and is not ineligible for citizenship but 11 is considered to be lawfully admitted for permanent residence as a 12 result of an exercise of discretion by the United States Attorney 13 General;
- 14 (3) was qualified by the federal Immigration and Naturalization 15 Service for conditional entry into the United States after March 31, 16 1980 because of persecution or fear of persecution on account of race, 17 religion, or political opinion;
- 18 (4) was qualified by the federal Immigration and Naturalization 19 Service for conditional entry into the United States prior to April 1, 20 1980;
- 21 (5) was granted asylum through an exercise of discretion by the 22 United States Attorney General;
 - (6) is lawfully present in the United States as a result of an exercise of discretion by the United States Attorney General for emergent reasons or reasons deemed strictly in the public interest, or as a result of a grant of parole by the United States Attorney General;
 - (7) the United States Attorney General has withheld deportation of the noncitizen because of the judgment of the United States Attorney General that the noncitizen would otherwise be subject to persecution on account of race, religion, or political opinion;
 - (8) has been determined as aged, blind or disabled in accordance with the supplemental security income program established pursuant to the federal Social Security Act, Pub.L.92-603 (42 U.S.C. s.1381 et seq.), and is considered by the federal Immigration and Naturalization Service to be lawfully admitted for temporary residence;
 - (9) was granted lawful temporary resident status at least five years prior to applying for the program and subsequently gained lawful permanent resident status; or
- 39 (10) is, as of June 1, 1987 or thereafter, a special agricultural 40 worker as defined by federal law and lawfully admitted for temporary 41 residence.
- c. A noncitizen who is certified as eligible for the program by the department, or the agency designated by the department, shall be required to apply for United States citizenship within 60 days of the date that the noncitizen is certified as eligible for the program or within 60 days of the date the noncitizen is eligible to apply for

- 1 citizenship, whichever is later, except that a noncitizen shall be exempt 2 from the citizenship application requirement if that person is:
 - (1) unable to either apply for or obtain citizenship due to a medical or physical condition as defined by regulation of the commissioner; or
 - (2) a child under 18 years of age.
- d. An eligible noncitizen may continue to receive program benefits
 until that person meets the minimum residency requirements provided
 in federal law to apply for citizenship.
- e. A person who is required to apply for citizenship to retain eligibility for the program, but who fails to supply adequate proof to the department, or the agency designated by the department, that he has made timely application for citizenship, shall have his eligibility for the program terminated.
 - f. A person who applies for citizenship, but who subsequently is determined by the federal Immigration and Naturalization Service to be ineligible for citizenship, except for a noncitizen as described in paragraph (1) of subsection c. of this section, shall have his eligibility for the program terminated at the end of the month in which the 60-day period as provided in subsection c. of this section expires.

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5. (New section) The State shall pay the full amount of each county's administrative costs applicable to households that contain only persons eligible for the program. These costs shall be determined in accordance with the approved cost allocation plan of the department.

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6. (New section) A noncitizen who is eligible for the federal food stamp program shall not be eligible for the program. A noncitizen who is ineligible for the federal food stamp program, but is eligible for the program, and who subsequently is made eligible for the federal food stamp program due to changes in federal law, shall lose entitlement to benefits under the program.

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- 7. Section 1 of P.L.1993, c.13 (C.2C:20-35) is amended to read as follows:
 - 1. As used in this act:
- 37 "ATP card" means a document issued by a State or federal agency, 38 to a certified household, to show the food stamp allotment a 39 household is authorized to receive on presentation.
- "Benefit card" means a card used or intended for use to access
 Work First New Jersey, food stamp or other benefits as determined by
 the Commissioner of Human Services under the electronic benefit
 distribution system established pursuant to the "Public Assistance
 Electronic Benefit Distribution System Act," P.L.1985, c.501
- 45 (C.44:10-5.1 et seq.) and continued pursuant to P.L.1997, c.37
- 46 (C.44:10-71 et al.).

- 1 "Department" means the Department of Human Services.
- 2 "Food stamp coupon" means any coupon or stamp used or intended
- 3 for use in the purchase of food pursuant to the federal food stamp
- 4 program[, 7 U.S.C.s.2011 et seq.] authorized by Title XIII of the
- 5 <u>"Food and Agriculture Act of 1977," Pub.L.95-113 (7 U.S.C. s.2011</u>
- 6 et seq.), or the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program
- 7 established pursuant to P.L., c. (C.)(pending before the
- 8 <u>Legislature as this bill</u>).
- 9 (cf: P.L.1997, c.37, s.8)

- 8. Section 2 of P.L.1993, c.13 (C.2C:20-36) is amended to read as follows:
- 2. If the face value of food stamp coupons or an ATP card or benefit card is equal to or greater than \$150, an individual shall be guilty of a crime of the fourth degree if he purposely or knowingly and without authorization:
- a. Receives or uses the proceeds of food stamp coupons or an ATP card or benefit card for which he has not applied or has not been approved by the department to use;
- b. Engages in any transaction to convert food stamp coupons or an ATP card or benefit card to other property contrary to federal and State government rules and regulations governing the Work First New Jersey program, the <u>federal</u> food stamp program, the <u>New Jersey</u>
- Supplementary Food Stamp Program, or any other program included
 in the electronic benefit distribution system; or
 - c. Transfers food stamp coupons or an ATP card or benefit card to another person who is not lawfully entitled or approved by the department to use the coupons or ATP card or benefit card.
- 29 (cf: P.L.1997, c.37, s.9)

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- 31 9. Section 3 of P.L.1993, c.13 (C.2C:20-37) is amended to read as 32 follows:
- 33 3. If the face value of food stamp coupons or an ATP card or 34 benefit card is less than \$150, an individual shall be guilty of a 35 disorderly persons offense if he purposely or knowingly and without 36 authorization:
- a. Receives or uses the proceeds of food stamp coupons or an ATP
 card or benefit card for which he has not applied or has not been
 approved, by the department, to use;
- b. Engages in any transaction to convert food stamp coupons or an
- 41 ATP card or benefit card to other property contrary to federal and 42 State government rules and regulations governing the Work First New
- 43 Jersey program, the <u>federal</u> food stamp program, <u>the New Jersey</u>
- 44 <u>Supplementary Food Stamp Program</u>, or any other program included
- 45 in the electronic benefit distribution system; or
- c. Transfers food stamp coupons or an ATP card or benefit card to

another person who is not lawfully entitled or approved, by the department, to use the coupons or ATP card or benefit card.

3 (cf: P.L.1997, c.37, s.10)

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- 5 10. Section 5 of P.L.1997, c.37 (C.44:10-75) is amended to read 6 as follows:
- 5. a. The department shall implement the electronic benefit distribution system established pursuant to P.L.1985, c.501 (C.44:10-5.1 et seq.) in every county of the State.
- b. All cash assistance and food stamp benefits shall be provided
 through the issuance of a single benefit card utilizing the electronic
 benefit distribution system. The commissioner may include additional
 programs in this system at his discretion.
 - c. No charge, including a fee imposed by a terminal owner, shall be imposed upon a person receiving cash assistance, food stamp or other benefits for participating in the electronic benefit transfer system, except as follows:
 - (1) after three free cash automatic teller machine withdrawals in a month, the department may deduct a transaction fee from a recipient's account for each subsequent withdrawal;
 - (2) a recipient shall be required to pay a fee for a replacement benefit card in an amount to be determined by the commissioner, which may be deducted from the recipient's account as determined by the commissioner, in accordance with federal law; and
 - (3) in the case of a recipient who elects to receive benefits at a point-of-sale location licensed by the Department of Banking and Insurance pursuant to P.L.1993, c.383 (C.17:15A-30 et seq.), the State shall pay the licensee the difference between the contracted base transaction fee and \$1.00. The provisions of this paragraph shall expire two years after the effective date of the single Statewide electronic benefits distribution contract that is let pursuant to P.L.1997, c.37 (C.44:10-71 et al.).
- d. A retail establishment currently authorized to participate in the federal food stamp program, or the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program established pursuant to P.L., c. (C.)(pending before the Legislature as this bill), shall be afforded the opportunity to participate in the electronic benefit distribution system.
 - e. The department shall cycle the issuance of cash assistance and food stamp benefits over multiple dates throughout the month in a manner that best serves cash assistance and food stamp recipients within the framework of the electronic benefit distribution system in each county.
- f. The commissioner shall have the discretion to determine the need for appropriate benefit card security measures, as well as whatever personal identification technology is included on the benefit card, to access cash assistance, food stamp or other benefits under the

S990 BASSANO, KENNY

1 electronic benefit distribution system.

- g. A county agency shall issue a photo-identification card to each adult recipient as a condition of receiving benefits until implementation of the electronic benefit distribution system in that county agency. Once a county begins to implement the electronic benefit distribution system, the county agency shall no longer be required to issue a photo-identification card to each adult recipient but may continue the issuance of photo-identification cards separate from the benefit cards.
- h. Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, until such time as the electronic benefit distribution system is implemented Statewide, contracts for the provision of food stamp coupons are not subject to the requirements of the "Local Public Contracts Law," P.L.1971, c.198 (C.40A:11-1 et seq.).
- 14 (cf: P.L.1997, c.37, s.5)

11. The Commissioner of Human Services, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), shall adopt rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act.

12. This act shall take effect on July 1, 1998.

STATEMENT

This bill establishes the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program in the Department of Human Services. The bill provides statutory authorization for the provisions of Executive Order Number 74 signed by the Governor on August 26, 1997, which authorized the State to provide State-funded food stamp benefits to certain categories of noncitizens (i.e., lawfully admitted children, elderly and disabled persons) in approximately 10,000 households who were rendered ineligible for the federal food stamp program by the enactment of the federal "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996," Pub.L.104-193. The Executive Order is due to expire on June 30, 1998.

Since September 1997, when the State food stamp program began, the State and the counties have each funded 50% of the administrative costs of the program. Under this bill, the State would pay the full amount of these administrative costs. The resulting increase in State costs has been anticipated in the amount allocated for the program in the Governor's recommended budget for fiscal year 1999.

SENATE SENIOR CITIZENS, VETERANS' AFFAIRS AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 990

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 14, 1998

The Senate Senior Citizens, Veterans' Affairs and Human Services Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 990.

As amended by committee, this bill establishes the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program in the Department of Human Services. The bill provides statutory authorization for the provisions of Executive Order Number 74 signed by the Governor on August 26, 1997, which authorized the State to provide State-funded food stamp benefits to certain categories of noncitizens (i.e., lawfully admitted children, elderly and disabled persons) in approximately 10,000 households who were rendered ineligible for the federal food stamp program by the enactment of the federal "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996," Pub.L.104-193. The Executive Order is due to expire on June 30, 1998.

In addition, this bill would authorize the State to provide State-funded food stamp benefits to a natural or adoptive parent, stepparent or legal guardian residing with that person's dependent child under the age of 18, who are in a category of noncitizens eligible for this program. Under the bill's provisions, unless employed, these persons shall be required to participate in a work activity as defined in N.J.S.A.44:10-57, which may include a program to assist or prepare the person for employment pursuant to subsection f. of N.J.S.A. 44:10-62, and shall be eligible for child care and other services under the Work First New Jersey program related to the work activity, except that:

- the person shall not be required to engage in a work activity if child care is unavailable pursuant to subsection d. of N.J.S.A. 44:10-62; and
- the person may be temporarily deferred from the work activity requirement if pursuant to subsection e. of N.J.S.A.44:10-62:
 - the person is a woman in the third trimester of pregnancy;
 - the person is unable to engage in a gainful occupation for a period less of than 12 months, as certified by a physician's

examination; or

- the person is providing care for a child under 12 weeks old, except that deferral may be extended if medically necessary for the person or child.

Lastly, the bill provides that a noncitizen who is ineligible for the federal food stamp program, but is eligible for the State-funded program, and who subsequently is made eligible for the federal food stamp program due to changes in federal law, shall lose entitlement to benefits under the State-funded program upon receipt of benefits under the federal food stamp program.

Since September 1997, when the State food stamp program began, the State and the counties have each funded 50% of the administrative costs of the program. Under this bill, the State would pay the full amount of these administrative costs. The resulting increase in State costs has been anticipated in the amount allocated for the program in the Governor's recommended budget for fiscal year 1999.

The committee adopted amendments:

- to extend the State-funded food stamp program benefits to natural or adoptive parents, stepparents or legal guardians residing with that person's dependent child under the age of 18; and
- to clarify that it is not until the person receives benefits under the federal food stamp program, that a person who subsequently is made eligible for the federal food stamp program would lose Statefunded food stamp benefits.

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint] **SENATE, No. 990**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 22, 1998

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 990 (1R).

This bill establishes the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program in the Department of Human Services.

The bill codifies Executive Order Number 74 signed by the Governor on August 26, 1997, which directed the provision of State-funded food stamp benefits to certain categories of noncitizens (i.e., lawfully admitted children, elderly and disabled persons) in approximately 10,000 households who were rendered ineligible for the federal food stamp program by the enactment of the federal "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996," Pub.L.104-193. The Executive Order will expire on June 30, 1998.

The program established by the bill also provides State-funded food stamp benefits to lawfully admitted noncitizens who are the natural or adoptive parents, stepparents or legal guardians of a dependent child under the age of 18 and who reside with that child. The bill requires these parents or guardians, unless employed, to participate in a "work activity" as defined in N.J.S.A.44:10-57, which may include a program to assist or prepare the person for employment pursuant to subsection f. of N.J.S.A.44:10-62, and makes them eligible for child care and other services under the Work First New Jersey program related to the work activity, except that:

- (1) the parent or guardian shall not be required to engage in a work activity if child care is unavailable pursuant to subsection d. of N.J.S.A.44:10-62; and
- (2) the parent or guardian may be temporarily deferred from the work activity requirement if, pursuant to subsection e. of N.J.S.A.44:10-62, the parent or guardian is (a) a woman in the third trimester of pregnancy, or (b) unable to engage in a gainful occupation for a period of less than 12 months, as certified by a physician's examination, or (c) providing care for a child under 12 weeks old, (the deferral may be extended if medically necessary for the person or child).

The bill provides 10 alternative criteria for establishing lawful admission to or presence in the United States under federal law or

administrative action. The noncitizen must meet at least one of these criteria in order to establish eligibility for the program.

Once certified as eligible for the program, the noncitizen is required under the bill to apply promptly for U.S. citizenship if or when eligible to make such application; exceptions are allowed for those under age 18 or in ill-health. A person subject to this citizenship application requirement who fails to supply proof of timely application, or who is found by the federal Immigration and Naturalization Service to be ineligible for citizenship (unless lawfully admitted for permanent residence as an immigrant), would be terminated from the program.

The bill requires that a noncitizen who is ineligible for the federal food stamp program, but is eligible for the State-funded program, and who subsequently is made eligible for the federal food stamp program due to changes in federal law, lose entitlement to benefits under the State-funded program upon receipt of benefits under the federal food stamp program.

Finally, the bill requires the State to pay the full administrative costs of the program, rather than sharing those costs equally with the counties as currently.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Since September 1997, when the State food stamp program began, the State and the counties have each funded 50% of the administrative costs of the Food Stamps for Legal Aliens program. Under this bill, the State would pay the full amount of these administrative costs. The resulting increase in State costs has been anticipated in the amount allocated for the program in the Governor's recommended budget for fiscal year 1999. That budget recommends \$6.7 million for the program, an amount which should be sufficient to cover the costs of the legislation.

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint] **SENATE, No. 990**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 22, 1998

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 990 (1R).

This bill establishes the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program in the Department of Human Services.

The bill codifies Executive Order Number 74 signed by the Governor on August 26, 1997, which directed the provision of State-funded food stamp benefits to certain categories of noncitizens (i.e., lawfully admitted children, elderly and disabled persons) in approximately 10,000 households who were rendered ineligible for the federal food stamp program by the enactment of the federal "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996," Pub.L.104-193. The Executive Order will expire on June 30, 1998.

The program established by the bill also provides State-funded food stamp benefits to lawfully admitted noncitizens who are the natural or adoptive parents, stepparents or legal guardians of a dependent child under the age of 18 and who reside with that child. The bill requires these parents or guardians, unless employed, to participate in a "work activity" as defined in N.J.S.A.44:10-57, which may include a program to assist or prepare the person for employment pursuant to subsection f. of N.J.S.A.44:10-62, and makes them eligible for child care and other services under the Work First New Jersey program related to the work activity, except that:

- (1) the parent or guardian shall not be required to engage in a work activity if child care is unavailable pursuant to subsection d. of N.J.S.A.44:10-62; and
- (2) the parent or guardian may be temporarily deferred from the work activity requirement if, pursuant to subsection e. of N.J.S.A.44:10-62, the parent or guardian is (a) a woman in the third trimester of pregnancy, or (b) unable to engage in a gainful occupation for a period of less than 12 months, as certified by a physician's examination, or (c) providing care for a child under 12 weeks old, (the deferral may be extended if medically necessary for the person or child).

The bill provides 10 alternative criteria for establishing lawful admission to or presence in the United States under federal law or

administrative action. The noncitizen must meet at least one of these criteria in order to establish eligibility for the program.

Once certified as eligible for the program, the noncitizen is required under the bill to apply promptly for U.S. citizenship if or when eligible to make such application; exceptions are allowed for those under age 18 or in ill-health. A person subject to this citizenship application requirement who fails to supply proof of timely application, or who is found by the federal Immigration and Naturalization Service to be ineligible for citizenship (unless lawfully admitted for permanent residence as an immigrant), would be terminated from the program.

The bill requires that a noncitizen who is ineligible for the federal food stamp program, but is eligible for the State-funded program, and who subsequently is made eligible for the federal food stamp program due to changes in federal law, lose entitlement to benefits under the State-funded program upon receipt of benefits under the federal food stamp program.

Finally, the bill requires the State to pay the full administrative costs of the program, rather than sharing those costs equally with the counties as currently.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Since September 1997, when the State food stamp program began, the State and the counties have each funded 50% of the administrative costs of the Food Stamps for Legal Aliens program. Under this bill, the State would pay the full amount of these administrative costs. The resulting increase in State costs has been anticipated in the amount allocated for the program in the Governor's recommended budget for fiscal year 1999. That budget recommends \$6.7 million for the program, an amount which should be sufficient to cover the costs of the legislation.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 990

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

208th LEGISLATURE

DATED: JULY 20, 1998

Bill Summary:

Senate Bill No. 990 (1R) of 1998 establishes the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program in the Department of Human Services (DHS) and provides statutory authorization of Executive Order No. 74 (August 26, 1997). The bill authorizes DHS to provide State-funded food stamp benefits to certain categories of non-citizens who are not eligible for the federal food stamp program due to the federal "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996," Pub.L.104-193. In addition, the bill:

- Extends the program to legal guardians (as well as parents and stepparents) residing with that person's dependent child under the age of 18 and requires such persons, unless employed, to comply with various requirements of the Work First New Jersey program;
- Terminates assistance to persons who are subsequently made eligible for the federal food stamp program upon receipt of benefits under the federal food stamp program; and
- Requires the State to pay the full administrative costs of the program in contrast to the current policy of having the administrative costs shared on a 50/50 basis between the State and counties.

Agency Comments:

DHS and the Office of Management and Budget have not provided any fiscal information on the legislation.

Office of Legislative Services Comments:

The FY 1999 budget recommends \$6.7 million for the Food Stamps for Legal Aliens program. This recommended appropriation should be sufficient to cover costs associated with the legislation.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 990

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

208th LEGISLATURE

DATED: JULY 20, 1998

Bill Summary:

Senate Bill No. 990 (1R) of 1998 establishes the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program in the Department of Human Services (DHS) and provides statutory authorization of Executive Order No. 74 (August 26, 1997). The bill authorizes DHS to provide State-funded food stamp benefits to certain categories of non-citizens who are not eligible for the federal food stamp program due to the federal "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996," Pub.L.104-193. In addition, the bill:

- Extends the program to legal guardians (as well as parents and stepparents) residing with that person's dependent child under the age of 18 and requires such persons, unless employed, to comply with various requirements of the Work First New Jersey program;
- Terminates assistance to persons who are subsequently made eligible for the federal food stamp program upon receipt of benefits under the federal food stamp program; and
- Requires the State to pay the full administrative costs of the program in contrast to the current policy of having the administrative costs shared on a 50/50 basis between the State and counties.

Agency Comments:

DHS and the Office of Management and Budget have not provided any fiscal information on the legislation.

Office of Legislative Services Comments:

The FY 1999 budget recommends \$6.7 million for the Food Stamps for Legal Aliens program. This recommended appropriation should be sufficient to cover costs associated with the legislation.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67.

ASSEMBLY, No. 1982

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 4, 1998

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman FRANCIS J. BLEE
District 2 (Atlantic)
Assemblyman RICHARD H. BAGGER
District 22 (Middlesex, Morris, Somerset and Union)

SYNOPSIS

"New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program Act."

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT establishing the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp 2 Program, amending P.L.1993, c.13 and P.L.1997, c.37, and 3 supplementing Title 44 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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8 1. (New section) This act shall be known and may be cited as the 9 "New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program Act."

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- 2. (New section) As used in this act:
- 12 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Human Services.
- 13 "Department" means the Department of Human Services.
- 14 "Federal food stamp program" means the federal food stamp program authorized by Title XIII of the "Food and Agriculture Act of 1977," Pub.L.95-113 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.). 16
- 17 "Program" means the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp 18 Program established pursuant to this act.

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- 20 3. (New section) a. There is established the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program in the Department of Human 21 Services. The purpose of the program is to provide nutritional 22 23 assistance to those categories of noncitizens who were rendered 24 ineligible for the federal food stamp program by section 402 of 25 Pub.L.104-193, the federal "Personal Responsibility and Work 26 Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996" (8 U.S.C. s.1612).
 - b. The program shall be administered pursuant to State rules and regulations implementing the federal food stamp program, except that the eligibility criteria for noncitizens for the program provided in section 4 of this act shall be used in lieu of those of the federal food stamp program.

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- 4. (New section) a. A noncitizen shall be eligible for participation in the program if that person was: lawfully admitted into the United States prior to August 22, 1996, remains lawfully present in the United States, is ineligible for the federal food stamp program, and is one of the following:
 - (1) under 18 years of age;
- (2) 65 years of age or over; 39
- 40 (3) receiving benefits under the supplemental security income program established pursuant to the federal Social Security Act, 41
- 42 Pub.L.92-603 (42 U.S.C. s.1381 et seq.), or determined to be an
- 43 essential person under the supplemental security income program;

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 (4) mentally or physically incapacitated, as defined by regulation of 2 the commissioner, including being blind;
- 3 (5) considered unemployable under the Work First New Jersey 4 program established pursuant to P.L.1997, c.38 (C.44:10-55 et seq.); 5 or
- 6 (6) a natural or adoptive parent or a stepparent residing with that 7 parent's dependent child who is under 18 years of age, subject to the 8 following:
- 9 (a) unless employed, the parent shall be required to participate in a 10 work activity as defined in section 3 of P.L.1997, c.38 (C.44:10-57), 11 which may include a program that is designed to assist the parent in 12 securing employment or preparing for employment, in accordance with 13 the provisions of subsection f. of section 8 of P.L.1997, c.38 (C.44:10-14 62); except that
- 15 (b) the parent shall not be required to engage in a work activity if 16 child care is unavailable for the parent's dependent child in accordance 17 with the provisions of subsection d. of section 8 of P.L.1997, c.38 18 (C.44:10-62); and

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- (c) the parent may be temporarily deferred from the work activity requirement in accordance with the provisions of subsection e. of section 8 of P.L.1997, c.38 (C.44:10-62).
- b. To be eligible for the program, a noncitizen shall also meet one of the following criteria:
 - (1) lawfully admitted for permanent residence as an immigrant;
- 25 (2) entered the United States prior to January 1, 1972, or some 26 later date as required by law, and continuously maintained residency 27 in the United States since then, and is not ineligible for citizenship but 28 is considered to be lawfully admitted for permanent residence as a 29 result of an exercise of discretion by the United States Attorney 30 General;
- 31 (3) was qualified by the federal Immigration and Naturalization 32 Service for conditional entry into the United States after March 31, 33 1980 because of persecution or fear of persecution on account of race, 34 religion, or political opinion;
- 35 (4) was qualified by the federal Immigration and Naturalization 36 Service for conditional entry into the United States prior to April 1, 37 1980;
- 38 (5) was granted asylum through an exercise of discretion by the 39 United States Attorney General;
- 40 (6) is lawfully present in the United States as a result of an exercise 41 of discretion by the United States Attorney General for emergent 42 reasons or reasons deemed strictly in the public interest, or as a result 43 of a grant of parole by the United States Attorney General;
- 44 (7) the United States Attorney General has withheld deportation of 45 the noncitizen because of the judgment of the United States Attorney 46 General that the noncitizen would otherwise be subject to persecution

1 on account of race, religion, or political opinion;

- 2 (8) has been determined as aged, blind or disabled in accordance 3 with the supplemental security income program established pursuant 4 to the federal Social Security Act, Pub.L.92-603 (42 U.S.C. s.1381 et 5 seq.), and is considered by the federal Immigration and Naturalization 6 Service to be lawfully admitted for temporary residence;
 - (9) was granted lawful temporary resident status at least five years prior to applying for the program and subsequently gained lawful permanent resident status; or
 - (10) is, as of June 1, 1987 or thereafter, a special agricultural worker as defined by federal law and lawfully admitted for temporary residence.
 - c. A noncitizen who is certified as eligible for the program by the department, or the agency designated by the department, shall be required to apply for United States citizenship within 60 days of the date that the noncitizen is certified as eligible for the program or within 60 days of the date the noncitizen is eligible to apply for citizenship, whichever is later, except that a noncitizen shall be exempt from the citizenship application requirement if that person is:
 - (1) unable to either apply for or obtain citizenship due to a medical or physical condition as defined by regulation of the commissioner; or (2) a child under 18 years of age.
 - d. An eligible noncitizen may continue to receive program benefits until that person meets the minimum residency requirements provided in federal law to apply for citizenship.
 - e. A person who is required to apply for citizenship to retain eligibility for the program, but who fails to supply adequate proof to the department, or the agency designated by the department, that he has made timely application for citizenship, shall have his eligibility for the program terminated.
 - f. A person who applies for citizenship, but who subsequently is determined by the federal Immigration and Naturalization Service to be ineligible for citizenship, except for a noncitizen as described in paragraph (1) of subsection c. of this section, shall have his eligibility for the program terminated at the end of the month in which the 60-day period as provided in subsection c. of this section expires.

5. (New section) The State shall pay the full amount of each county's administrative costs applicable to households that contain only persons eligible for the program. These costs shall be determined in accordance with the approved cost allocation plan of the department.

6. (New section) A noncitizen who is eligible for the federal food stamp program shall not be eligible for the program. A noncitizen who is ineligible for the federal food stamp program, but is eligible for the

- 1 program, and who subsequently is made eligible for the federal food
- 2 stamp program due to changes in federal law, shall lose entitlement to
- 3 benefits under the program.

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- 5 7. Section 1 of P.L.1993, c.13 (C.2C:20-35) is amended to read as 6 follows:
 - 1. As used in this act:
- 8 "ATP card" means a document issued by a State or federal agency,
- 9 to a certified household, to show the food stamp allotment a 10 household is authorized to receive on presentation.
- "Benefit card" means a card used or intended for use to access
- Work First New Jersey, food stamp or other benefits as determined by
- 13 the Commissioner of Human Services under the electronic benefit
- 14 distribution system established pursuant to the "Public Assistance
- 15 Electronic Benefit Distribution System Act," P.L.1985, c.501
- 16 (C.44:10-5.1 et seq.) and continued pursuant to P.L.1997, c.37
- 17 (C.44:10-71 et al.).
- "Department" means the Department of Human Services.
- 19 "Food stamp coupon" means any coupon or stamp used or intended
- 20 for use in the purchase of food pursuant to the federal food stamp
- 21 program[, 7 U.S.C.s.2011 et seq.] authorized by Title XIII of the
- 22 <u>"Food and Agriculture Act of 1977," Pub.L.95-113 (7 U.S.C. s.2011</u>
- 23 et seq.), or the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program
- 24 <u>established pursuant to P.L.</u>, c. (C.)(pending before the
- 25 <u>Legislature as this bill</u>).
- 26 (cf: P.L.1997, c.37, s.8)

- 28 8. Section 2 of P.L.1993, c.13 (C.2C:20-36) is amended to read as 29 follows:
- 2. If the face value of food stamp coupons or an ATP card or
- 31 benefit card is equal to or greater than \$150, an individual shall be
- 32 guilty of a crime of the fourth degree if he purposely or knowingly and
- 33 without authorization:
- a. Receives or uses the proceeds of food stamp coupons or an ATP
- 35 card or benefit card for which he has not applied or has not been
- 36 approved by the department to use;
- b. Engages in any transaction to convert food stamp coupons or an
- 38 ATP card or benefit card to other property contrary to federal and
- 39 State government rules and regulations governing the Work First New
- 40 Jersey program, the <u>federal</u> food stamp program, <u>the New Jersey</u>
- 41 <u>Supplementary Food Stamp Program</u>, or any other program included
- 42 in the electronic benefit distribution system; or
- c. Transfers food stamp coupons or an ATP card or benefit card to
- 44 another person who is not lawfully entitled or approved by the
- department to use the coupons or ATP card or benefit card.
- 46 (cf: P.L.1997, c.37, s.9)

- 1 9. Section 3 of P.L.1993, c.13 (C.2C:20-37) is amended to read as 2
- 3 3. If the face value of food stamp coupons or an ATP card or 4 benefit card is less than \$150, an individual shall be guilty of a disorderly persons offense if he purposely or knowingly and without 5 6 authorization:
- 7 a. Receives or uses the proceeds of food stamp coupons or an ATP 8 card or benefit card for which he has not applied or has not been 9 approved, by the department, to use;
- 10 b. Engages in any transaction to convert food stamp coupons or an 11 ATP card or benefit card to other property contrary to federal and 12 State government rules and regulations governing the Work First New 13 Jersey program, the <u>federal</u> food stamp program, <u>the New Jersey</u> 14 Supplementary Food Stamp Program, or any other program included 15 in the electronic benefit distribution system; or
- c. Transfers food stamp coupons or an ATP card or benefit card to 16 another person who is not lawfully entitled or approved, by the 17 18 department, to use the coupons or ATP card or benefit card. 19

(cf: P.L.1997, c.37, s.10)

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- 21 10. Section 5 of P.L.1997, c.37 (C.44:10-75) is amended to read 22 as follows:
- 5. a. The department shall implement the electronic benefit 23 distribution system established pursuant to P.L.1985, c.501 24 25 (C.44:10-5.1 et seq.) in every county of the State.
 - b. All cash assistance and food stamp benefits shall be provided through the issuance of a single benefit card utilizing the electronic benefit distribution system. The commissioner may include additional programs in this system at his discretion.
- 30 c. No charge, including a fee imposed by a terminal owner, shall be 31 imposed upon a person receiving cash assistance, food stamp or other 32 benefits for participating in the electronic benefit transfer system, 33 except as follows:
 - (1) after three free cash automatic teller machine withdrawals in a month, the department may deduct a transaction fee from a recipient's account for each subsequent withdrawal;
 - (2) a recipient shall be required to pay a fee for a replacement benefit card in an amount to be determined by the commissioner, which may be deducted from the recipient's account as determined by the commissioner, in accordance with federal law; and
- 41 (3) in the case of a recipient who elects to receive benefits at a point-of-sale location licensed by the Department of Banking and 42 Insurance pursuant to P.L.1993, c.383 (C.17:15A-30 et seq.), the 43 44 State shall pay the licensee the difference between the contracted base 45 transaction fee and \$1.00. The provisions of this paragraph shall expire two years after the effective date of the single Statewide 46

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- 1 electronic benefits distribution contract that is let pursuant to 2 P.L.1997, c.37 (C.44:10-71 et al.).
- d. A retail establishment currently authorized to participate in the
 federal food stamp program, or the New Jersey Supplementary Food
- 5 Stamp Program established pursuant to P.L. , c. (C.)(pending
- before the Legislature as this bill), shall be afforded the opportunity to
 participate in the electronic benefit distribution system.
- e. The department shall cycle the issuance of cash assistance and food stamp benefits over multiple dates throughout the month in a manner that best serves cash assistance and food stamp recipients within the framework of the electronic benefit distribution system in each county.
 - f. The commissioner shall have the discretion to determine the need for appropriate benefit card security measures, as well as whatever personal identification technology is included on the benefit card, to access cash assistance, food stamp or other benefits under the electronic benefit distribution system.
- g. A county agency shall issue a photo-identification card to each adult recipient as a condition of receiving benefits until implementation of the electronic benefit distribution system in that county agency. Once a county begins to implement the electronic benefit distribution system, the county agency shall no longer be required to issue a photo-identification card to each adult recipient but may continue the issuance of photo-identification cards separate from the benefit cards.
 - h. Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, until such time as the electronic benefit distribution system is implemented Statewide, contracts for the provision of food stamp coupons are not subject to the requirements of the "Local Public Contracts Law," P.L.1971, c.198 (C.40A:11-1 et seq.).
- 30 (cf: P.L.1997, c.37, s.5)

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11. The Commissioner of Human Services, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), shall adopt rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act.

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12. This act shall take effect on July 1, 1998.

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STATEMENT

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This bill establishes the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program in the Department of Human Services. The bill provides statutory authorization for the provisions of Executive Order Number 74 signed by the Governor on August 26, 1997, which authorized the State to provide State-funded food stamp benefits to certain categories

A1982 BLEE, BAGGER

- 1 of noncitizens (i.e., lawfully admitted children, elderly and disabled
- 2 persons) in approximately 10,000 households who were rendered
- 3 ineligible for the federal food stamp program by the enactment of the
- 4 federal "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation
- 5 Act of 1996," Pub.L.104-193. The Executive Order is due to expire
- 6 on June 30, 1998. In addition, this bill would authorize the State to
- 7 provide State-funded food stamp benefits to parents with children
- 8 under 18 years of age who are in a category of noncitizens eligible for
- 9 this program.
- Since September 1997, when the State food stamp program began,
- 11 the State and the counties have each funded 50% of the administrative
- 12 costs of the program. Under this bill, the State would pay the full
- 13 amount of these administrative costs. The resulting increase in State
- 14 costs has been anticipated in the amount allocated for the program in
- 15 the Governor's recommended budget for fiscal year 1999.

ASSEMBLY SENIOR ISSUES AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1982

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 1, 1998

The Assembly Senior Issues and Community Services Committee favorably reports Assembly Bill No. 1982 with committee amendments.

As amended by committee, this bill establishes the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program in the Department of Human Services. The bill provides statutory authorization for the provisions of Executive Order Number 74 signed by the Governor on August 26, 1997, which authorized the State to provide State-funded food stamp benefits to certain categories of noncitizens (i.e., lawfully admitted children, elderly and disabled persons) in approximately 10,000 households who were rendered ineligible for the federal food stamp program by the enactment of the federal "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996," Pub.L.104-193. The Executive Order is due to expire on June 30, 1998.

In addition, this bill would authorize the State to provide State-funded food stamp benefits to a natural or adoptive parent, stepparent or legal guardian residing with that person's dependent child under the age of 18, who are in a category of noncitizens eligible for this program. Under the bill's provisions, unless employed, these persons shall be required to participate in a work activity as defined in N.J.S.A.44:10-57, which may include a program to assist or prepare the person for employment pursuant to subsection f. of N.J.S.A.44:10-62, and shall be eligible for child care and other services under the Work First New Jersey program related to the work activity, except that:

- the person shall not be required to engage in a work activity if child care is unavailable pursuant to subsection d. of N.J.S.A.44:10-62; and
- the person may be temporarily deferred from the work activity requirement if pursuant to subsection e. of N.J.S.A.44:10-62:
 - the person is a woman in the third trimester of pregnancy;
 - the person is unable to engage in a gainful occupation for a

period of less than 12 months, as certified by a physician's examination; or

- the person is providing care for a child under 12 weeks old, except that deferral may be extended if medically necessary for the person or child.

Lastly, the bill provides that a noncitizen who is ineligible for the federal food stamp program, but is eligible for the State-funded program, and who subsequently is made eligible for the federal food stamp program due to changes in federal law, shall lose entitlement to benefits under the State-funded program upon receipt of benefits under the federal food stamp program.

Since September 1997, when the State food stamp program began, the State and the counties have each funded 50% of the administrative costs of the program. Under this bill, the State would pay the full amount of these administrative costs. The resulting increase in State costs has been anticipated in the amount allocated for the program in the Governor's recommended budget for fiscal year 1999.

The committee adopted amendments:

- to extend the State-funded food stamp program benefits to legal guardians (as well as parents and stepparents) residing with that person's dependent child under the age of 18; and
- to clarify that it is not until the person receives benefits under the federal food stamp program, that a person who subsequently is made eligible for the federal food stamp program would lose Statefunded food stamp benefits.

ASSEMBLY SENIOR ISSUES AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1982

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 1, 1998

The Assembly Senior Issues and Community Services Committee favorably reports Assembly Bill No. 1982 with committee amendments.

As amended by committee, this bill establishes the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program in the Department of Human Services. The bill provides statutory authorization for the provisions of Executive Order Number 74 signed by the Governor on August 26, 1997, which authorized the State to provide State-funded food stamp benefits to certain categories of noncitizens (i.e., lawfully admitted children, elderly and disabled persons) in approximately 10,000 households who were rendered ineligible for the federal food stamp program by the enactment of the federal "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996," Pub.L.104-193. The Executive Order is due to expire on June 30, 1998.

In addition, this bill would authorize the State to provide State-funded food stamp benefits to a natural or adoptive parent, stepparent or legal guardian residing with that person's dependent child under the age of 18, who are in a category of noncitizens eligible for this program. Under the bill's provisions, unless employed, these persons shall be required to participate in a work activity as defined in N.J.S.A.44:10-57, which may include a program to assist or prepare the person for employment pursuant to subsection f. of N.J.S.A.44:10-62, and shall be eligible for child care and other services under the Work First New Jersey program related to the work activity, except that:

- the person shall not be required to engage in a work activity if child care is unavailable pursuant to subsection d. of N.J.S.A.44:10-62; and
- the person may be temporarily deferred from the work activity requirement if pursuant to subsection e. of N.J.S.A.44:10-62:
 - the person is a woman in the third trimester of pregnancy;
 - the person is unable to engage in a gainful occupation for a

period of less than 12 months, as certified by a physician's examination; or

- the person is providing care for a child under 12 weeks old, except that deferral may be extended if medically necessary for the person or child.

Lastly, the bill provides that a noncitizen who is ineligible for the federal food stamp program, but is eligible for the State-funded program, and who subsequently is made eligible for the federal food stamp program due to changes in federal law, shall lose entitlement to benefits under the State-funded program upon receipt of benefits under the federal food stamp program.

Since September 1997, when the State food stamp program began, the State and the counties have each funded 50% of the administrative costs of the program. Under this bill, the State would pay the full amount of these administrative costs. The resulting increase in State costs has been anticipated in the amount allocated for the program in the Governor's recommended budget for fiscal year 1999.

The committee adopted amendments:

- to extend the State-funded food stamp program benefits to legal guardians (as well as parents and stepparents) residing with that person's dependent child under the age of 18; and
- to clarify that it is not until the person receives benefits under the federal food stamp program, that a person who subsequently is made eligible for the federal food stamp program would lose Statefunded food stamp benefits.

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint] ASSEMBLY, No. 1982

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 15, 1998

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1982 (1R).

Assembly Bill 1982 (1R) establishes the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program in the Department of Human Services.

The bill codifies Executive Order Number 74 signed by the Governor on August 26, 1997, which directed the provision of State-funded food stamp benefits to certain categories of noncitizens (i.e., lawfully admitted children, elderly and disabled persons) in approximately 10,000 households who were rendered ineligible for the federal food stamp program by the enactment of the federal "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996," Pub.L.104-193. The Executive Order will expire on June 30, 1998.

The program established by the bill also provides State-funded food stamp benefits to lawfully admitted noncitizens who are the natural or adoptive parents, stepparents or legal guardians of a dependent child under the age of 18 and who reside with that child. The bill requires these parents or guardians, unless employed, to participate in a "work activity" as defined in N.J.S.A.44:10-57, which may include a program to assist or prepare the person for employment pursuant to subsection f. of N.J.S.A.44:10-62, and makes them eligible for child care and other services under the Work First New Jersey program related to the work activity, except that:

- the parent or guardian shall not be required to engage in a work activity if child care is unavailable pursuant to subsection d. of N.J.S.A.44:10-62; and
- the parent or guardian may be temporarily deferred from the work activity requirement if pursuant to subsection e. of N.J.S.A.44:10-62:
- the parent or guardian is a woman in the third trimester of pregnancy;
- the parent or guardian is unable to engage in a gainful occupation for a period of less than 12 months, as certified by a physician's examination; or
- the parent or guardian person is providing care for a child under 12 weeks old, (the deferral may be extended if medically necessary for

the person or child).

The bill requires that a noncitizen who is ineligible for the federal food stamp program, but is eligible for the State-funded program, and who subsequently is made eligible for the federal food stamp program due to changes in federal law, lose entitlement to benefits under the State-funded program upon receipt of benefits under the federal food stamp program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Since September 1997, when the State food stamp program began, the State and the counties have each funded 50% of the administrative costs of the program. Under this bill, the State would pay the full amount of these administrative costs. The resulting increase in State costs has been anticipated in the amount allocated for the program in the Governor's recommended budget for fiscal year 1999.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 1982

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

208th LEGISLATURE

DATED: JULY 20, 1998

Bill Summary:

Assembly Bill No. 1982 (1R) of 1998 establishes the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program in the Department of Human Services (DHS) and provides statutory authorization of Executive Order No. 74 (August 26, 1997). The bill authorizes DHS to provide State-funded food stamp benefits to certain categories of non-citizens who are not eligible for the federal food stamp program due to the federal "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996," Pub.L.104-193. In addition, the bill:

- Extends the program to legal guardians (as well as parents and stepparents) residing with that person's dependent child under the age of 18 and requires such persons, unless employed, to comply with various requirements of the Work First New Jersey program;
- Terminates assistance to persons who are subsequently made eligible for the federal food stamp program upon receipt of benefits under the federal food stamp program; and
- Requires the State to pay the full administrative costs of the program in contrast to the current policy of having the administrative costs shared on a 50/50 basis between the State and counties.

Agency Comments:

DHS and the Office of Management and Budget have not provided any fiscal information on the legislation.

Office of Legislative Services Comments:

The FY 1999 budget recommends \$6.7 million for the Food Stamps for Legal Aliens program. This recommended appropriation should be sufficient to cover costs associated with the legislation.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67.

Office of the Governor NEWS RELEASE

PO BOX 004 TRENTON, NJ 08625

CONTACT: Jayne O'Connor Julie Plocinik 609-777-2600

RELEASE: June 30, 1998

Gov. Christie Whitman today signed the following legislation:

S-2001, sponsored by Senator Robert Littell (R- Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris) and Assembly Members Richard Bagger (R- Middlesex/Morris/Somerset/Union) and Joseph Charles (D-Hudson), makes various FY 1998 supplemental appropriations totaling \$105,403,932 in state funds and \$579,254 in federal funds and appropriates \$15 million in bond funds. Projects funded through this bill include: \$400,000 for the purchase of protective vests for law enforcement, \$750,000 to support a toll free telephone system for dealing with the Division of Motor Vehicles services, \$285,000 for computer equipment to run criminal history background checks on school employees, and \$15 million in property tax relief aid to the City of Camden and the creation of a financial oversight board for the city, and \$15 million for sewer overflow abatement projects for the Passaic River/Newark Bay Restoration Program.

- **A-2141**, sponsored by Assembly Member Francis Blee (R-Atlantic) and Senators Louis Bassano (R-Essex/Union and Leonard Connors (R-Atlantic/Burlington/Ocean), establishes an annual assessment of 5.8 percent of gross revenue on all intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded. The revenue generated by the assessment will be used to reduce the Developmental Disabilities waiting list for placement in community residences.
- **A-673**, sponsored by Assembly Members Jack Gibson and Nicholas Asselta and Senator James Cafiero (all R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland), authorizes municipalities to regulate skateboards and roller skates upon roadways and public properties under their jurisdiction. This law supplements legislation signed January 19, requiring helmets for skaters under 14 years of, by ensuring that municipalities have the ability to regulate skating activities to protect skaters, motorists and other pedestrians in their communities.
- **A-553**, sponsored by Assembly Members David Russo (R- Bergen/Passaic) and Gerald Zecker (R-Essex/Passaic) and Senators Jack Sinagra (R-Middlesex) and John Adler (D-Camden), prohibits smoking in child care centers when children are present.
- **A-1902**, sponsored by Assembly Member Richard Bagger (R-Middlesex/Morris/Somerset/Union) and Louis Romano (D-Hudson) and Senator Robert Littell (R-Sussex/Hunterdon/Morris), authorizes the State Treasurer to determine the salary of the Director and Deputy Director of the Division of Investment and authorizes the Treasurer to designate an additional deputy director.
- S-851, sponsored by Senators Joseph Palaia (R-Monmouth) and Norman M.

Robertson (R-Essex/Passaic) and Assembly Member Christopher "Kip" Bateman (R-Morris/Somerset), revises statutes providing for criminal history record checks of school employees and school bus drivers. The bill expands the list of disqualifying crimes; deletes a provision authorizing the employment of a persons with a disqualifying crime if rehabilitation has been demonstrated and prohibits schools from provisionally hiring candidates pending completion of their criminal history record checks, except in limited circumstances.

- **A-1996**, gives the state Treasurer the authority to bundle old, difficult to collect tax debt represented as tax certificates and enter into a contract with a financial institution after public bidding. The financial institution would assume ownership of the debt and replace the state as the collector. The bill was sponsored by Assembly Members Paul DiGaetano (R- Bergen/Essex/Passaic) and Richard Bagger (R-Middlesex/Morris /Somerset/Union) and Senators Walter Kavanaugh (R-Morris/Somerset) and Peter Inverso (R-Mercer/Middlesex).
- **S-1002**, which amends the state's Business Employment Incentive Program (BEIP) Act to encourage partnerships and limited liability companies to participate in the BEIP program and locate or expand in New Jersey. Companies that create jobs in New Jersey by either moving to the state or expanding operations are eligible to receive incentive grants which are based upon the income taxes paid by the newly-hired employees. The new legislation amends the law to allow estimated taxes paid by partners to be included in the BEIP calculation, thereby increasing the amount of the BEIP grant for partnerships and limited liability companies and providing them with an incentive to move to New Jersey. The bill was sponsored by Senators Joseph Kyrillos, Jr. (R- Middlesex/Monmouth) and Bernard Kenny, Jr. (D-Hudson) and Assembly Members Steve Corodemus (R-Monmouth) and Joseph Azzolina (R- Middlesex/Monmouth).
- **A-2190**, sponsored by Assembly Members Francis Blee (R-Atlantic) and Carol Murphy (R-Essex/Morris/Passaic), expands the Drug Utilization Review Board in the Department of Human Services for state-funded pharmaceutical benefits programs. The powers of the Board will include review of the Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (PAAD) and the AIDS Drug Distribution programs. Membership of the Board shall include individuals with expertise in the prescribing of medication to the geriatric and AIDS populations to address specific needs of these individuals. The bill appropriates \$90,000 for establishment of the Review Board.
- **A- 1690**, eliminates the requirement in the current charity care law that the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) seek federal approval to establish a permanent state-wide program for providing hospital charity care services on a managed care basis. The bill permits the Commissioner of Human Services to seek federal approval to establish a demonstration managed charity care program, within a single region or county, for a two-year period in order to test the programmatic and fiscal viability of delivering charity care services by this alternative means. The bill was sponsored by Assembly Members Nicholas Asselta (R-Cape May/Atlantic/Cumberland) and Joseph Doria, Jr. ((D-Hudson) and by Senators John Matheussen (R-Camden/Gloucester) and John Bennett (R-Monmouth).
- **S-990**, sponsored by Senator Louis Bassano (R-Essex/Union) and Bernard Kenny (D-Hudson), establishes the New Jersey Supplementary Food Stamp Program in the Department of Human Services. The legislation, an administration initiative,

extends the availability of food stamps to certain noncitizens covered under E.O. 74, which expires today. The program provides broader coverage than the legislation passed in Congress earlier this month. The bill will also provide coverage for individuals who are considered unemployable under the WorkFirst New Jersey Program and are ineligible for federal Supplemental Security Income benefits.

Office of the Governor NEWS RELEASE

PO BOX 004 TRENTON, NJ 08625

CONTACT: Jayne O'Connor Julie Plocinik 609-777-2600

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extends the availability of food stamps to certain noncitizens covered under E.O. 74, which expires today. The program provides broader coverage than the legislation passed in Congress earlier this month. The bill will also provide coverage for individuals who are considered unemployable under the WorkFirst New Jersey Program and are ineligible for federal Supplemental Security Income benefits.

State of New Jersey Executive Department

Executive Order No. 74

WHEREAS, changes in federal law which occurred on August 22, 1996, have resulted in a large number of legal immigrant children and legal immigrants who are aged, blind or disabled, living in New Jersey prior to August 22, 1996, losing their access to federal food stamp assistance; and

WHEREAS, federal law was subsequently amended on June 12, 1997, to allow states to retain, at their own expense, certain former aspects of this food stamp program; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of these legal immigrants depend upon the food stamp assistance to feed themselves and their dependents; and

WHEREAS, the health and welfare of the approximately 10,000 households which include children and the aged, blind or disabled persons affected by the cessation of federal assistance will be detrimentally impacted; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Human Services total budget for Fiscal Year 1998 contains funds in anticipation of changes in federal law and the loss of federal assistance for certain populations which could be made available to provide food stamp assistance to these legal immigrants; and

WHEREAS, it is my intention that the benefits should continue without disruption to assist the affected children and those recipients who are aged, blind or disabled and that this program be administered in an efficient and effective manner;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN, Governor of the State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and by the Statutes of this State, do hereby ORDER and DIRECT:

- 1. The Commissioner of the Department of Human Services shall take all necessary action to insure that those legal immigrant children and those legal immigrants who are aged, blind or disabled who were bona fide residents of New Jersey prior to August 22, 1996, and who have lost federal food stamp assistance as a result of the June 1997 changes in federal law, be granted State food stamp assistance for the duration of this Order.
- 2. Pursuant to Paragraph 11 of the General Provisions of the Fiscal Year 1998 Appropriations Act, the Commissioner, through the Office of Management and Budget, shall apply to the Joint Budget Oversight Committee for permission to specifically transfer the

necessary funding to support this Order.

- 3. The Commissioner of the Department of Human Services shall have full authority to adopt such rules, regulations, orders and directives as he shall deem necessary to effect the above provisions.
- $4.\ \,$ This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until June 30, 1998, unless superseding legislation is enacted sooner.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this 26th day of August in the Year of Our Lord, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety Seven, and of the Independence of the United States, the Two Hundred and Twenty-Second.

/s/Christine Todd Whitman Governor

Attest:
/s/Michael P. Torpey
Chief Counsel to the Governor