
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. This Act is intended to encourage proper
2 nutrition for those who receive benefits under the federal
3 supplemental nutrition assistance program. This Act is
4 consistent with the Congressional Declaration of Policy under
5 Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 United States Code, section 2011),
6 which states:

7 "It is declared to be the policy of Congress, in order to
8 promote the general welfare, to safeguard the health and
9 well-being of the Nation's population by raising levels of
10 nutrition among low-income households. Congress finds that
11 the limited food purchasing power of low-income households
12 contributes to hunger and malnutrition among members of
13 such households. Congress further finds that increased
14 utilization of food in establishing and maintaining
15 adequate national levels of nutrition will promote the
16 distribution in a beneficial manner of the Nation's
17 agricultural abundance and will strengthen the Nation's
18 agricultural economy, as well as result in more orderly



1 marketing and distribution of foods. To alleviate such
2 hunger and malnutrition, a supplemental nutrition
3 assistance program is herein authorized which will permit
4 low-income households to obtain a more nutritious diet
5 through normal channels of trade by increasing food
6 purchasing power for all eligible households who apply for
7 participation."

8 The legislature also finds that supplemental nutrition
9 assistance program recipients are not allowed to use
10 supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits to purchase
11 hot or prepared meals pursuant to title 7 Code of Federal
12 Regulations section 274.7. The exception to this exclusion is
13 if a state elects to operate a restaurant meals program for
14 qualified elderly, disabled, and homeless persons. Hawaii
15 administered such a program from 1992 to 1998, but discontinued
16 the program due to complaints of abuse and a lack of staff to
17 adequately monitor the program.

18 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
19 human services to report on:

20 (1) The prospective elderly, disabled, and homeless
21 recipients of the supplemental nutrition assistance
22 program; and



1 (2) The feasibility of re-administering and overseeing a
2 restaurant meals program that would allow the use of
3 supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits to
4 purchase hot or prepared meals at designated
5 restaurants or facilities.

6 SECTION 2. The department of human services shall submit
7 to the legislature, no later than twenty days prior to the
8 convening of the regular session of 2013, a report that provides
9 information on:

10 (1) The prospective elderly, disabled, and homeless
11 recipients of the supplemental nutrition assistance
12 program; and

13 (2) The feasibility of re-administering and overseeing a
14 restaurant meals program that would allow the use of
15 supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits to
16 purchase hot or prepared meals at designated
17 restaurants or facilities.

18 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

19



Report Title:

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; Food Stamp; Report

Description:

Requires the department of human services to provide information on the prospective population eligible for the supplemental nutrition assistance program and the feasibility of allowing supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits to be used to purchase hot or prepared meals. (SD1)

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