SENATE BILL 218

CHAPTER _____

AN ACT concerning

Human Services – Food Supplements
(Summer SNAP for Children Act)

FOR the purpose of renaming the food stamp program to be the food supplement program;
requiring the State to provide matching funds for a certain supplement for certain individuals in a household that receives certain federally funded benefits; providing for the amount of the supplemental benefit; providing that the supplemental benefit is subject to certain requirements; providing that the supplemental benefit is for each child in the household; requiring the supplemental benefit to be provided in certain months; establishing the manner in which the supplemental benefit is provided; prohibiting a household from receiving more than one supplemental benefit per child; requiring a county to submit a certain application by a certain date to receive funding for the supplemental benefit; requiring the application to include certain information; requiring the Department of Human Services to notify certain counties of certain available funding on or before a certain date each year; providing that receipt of certain funding by a county is contingent on approval of a certain final plan; requiring certain counties to submit a certain final plan to the Department on or before a certain date; requiring the Department to approve or reject a certain final plan and provide notice of the decision on or before a certain date; allowing a county with a rejected final plan to submit a revised final plan for approval; requiring the Department to certify available funding for an approved final plan; specifying the required State and local shares of funding for a county with an approved final plan; specifying the manner in which available State funding for the supplemental benefit

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Underlining indicates amendments to bill.
Strike out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.
is apportioned among counties with approved final plans; requiring the Governor to
appropriate certain amounts of funding for the supplemental benefits in certain
fiscal years; authorizing a county to provide certain additional funding; prohibiting
certain required funding from being affected by certain additional funding; requiring
the Governor to appropriate a certain amount of funding for the supplemental
benefits in certain fiscal years; if certain federal funding is available, requiring the
Department of Human Services, in consultation with the State Department of
Education, to apply for a certain federal grant to implement a Summer Electronic
Benefit Transfer for Children demonstration project; requiring the Department to
report to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date
annually; providing for the termination of certain provisions of this Act; defining a
certain term; and generally relating to the food stamp supplement program.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Human Services
Section 5–501
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2007 Volume and 2018 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Human Services
Section 5–501.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2007 Volume and 2018 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Human Services

5–501.

(a) The Department may implement a food stamp SUPPLEMENT program in
accordance with the federal Food Stamp Act SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM.

(b) The State shall bear the nonfederal portion of the administrative costs of the
food stamp SUPPLEMENT program for each county.

(c) Each local department shall administer the food stamp SUPPLEMENT
program:

(1) under the supervision and control of the Department; and

(2) in accordance with the regulations of the Department and federal law.
(d) If a household includes an individual who is at least 62 years old and receives a federally funded benefit in an amount less than $30 per month under the food stamp program, the State shall provide a supplement to increase the total benefit to $30 per month.

5–501.1.

(A) In this section, “child” means an individual who is under the age of 19 years at any time during a calendar year.

(B) (1) Subject to subsections (e) and (f) of this section, if a household includes an individual who receives a federally funded benefit under the food stamp supplement program, the State shall provide matching funds to a county to supplement benefits received under § 5–501 of this subtitle for each child in the household in the amount of:

(2) For each child in the household, the combined State and county supplement under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall equal at least:

(i) $30 per month in the months of June, July, and August; and

(ii) $10 in the month of December.

(C) (1) A supplement provided under subsection (b) of this section shall be added to the household food stamp supplement program benefit account 15 days after the federally funded benefit is added to the account in June, July, and August.

(2) A supplement provided under subsection (b) of this section shall be added to the household food stamp supplement program benefit account 7 days after the federally funded benefit is added to the account in December.

(D) A household may not receive more than one supplement per child under subsection (b) of this section.

(E) (1) To receive funding in the following fiscal year for the supplements under subsection (b) of this section, a county shall submit an application to the Department on or before December 1.
(II) The application shall include the following information:

1. A proposed plan to successfully implement distribution of supplements awarded to the county;

2. A proposed plan to market and communicate the availability of food stamp supplement program benefits and supplements to eligible families;

3. The process by which the county will evaluate the impact of the supplements;

4. Food stamp supplement program participation eligibility and enrollment rates in the county; and

5. Certification of the maximum amount of local share funds available; and

6. Any other relevant information required by the Department.

(2) (I) On or before January 15 each year, the Department shall notify each county that submitted a complete application of the amount of funding available in the next fiscal year for supplements under subsection (B) of this section.

(ii) Receipt of available funding under subparagraph (I) of this paragraph is contingent on approval by the Department of a county’s final plan submitted in accordance with paragraph (3) of this subsection.

(3) On or before March 1 each year, a county that is notified of available funding shall submit a final plan to the Department that includes:

(i) A marketing and communication plan to inform eligible families of the food stamp supplement program and the supplements available under this section;

(ii) If funding is not sufficient to provide a minimum supplement of $100 to all children in the county receiving food stamp supplement program benefits in the fiscal year, a designation of which
CHILDREN WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THE SUPPLEMENTS UNDER THIS SECTION;

(III) THE CRITERIA USED TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY UNDER ITEM (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH; AND

(IV) AN EVALUATION PLAN TO MEASURE:

1. THE IMPACT OF THE SUPPLEMENTS ON RECIPIENTS;

2. FOOD STAMP SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM PARTICIPATION; AND

3. ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

(4) (I) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW A FINAL PLAN SUBMITTED UNDER PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION AND APPROVE OR REJECT THE FINAL PLAN.

(II) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOTIFY A COUNTY OF ITS DECISION UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH ON OR BEFORE MAY 15 APRIL 1.

(III) IF THE DEPARTMENT REJECTS A COUNTY’S FINAL PLAN, THE COUNTY MAY SUBMIT A REVISED FINAL PLAN FOR APPROVAL ON OR BEFORE APRIL 15.

(IV) IF THE DEPARTMENT APPROVES A COUNTY’S FINAL PLAN, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CERTIFY THE AMOUNT OF FUNDING THAT WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE COUNTY IN THE FOLLOWING FISCAL YEAR.

(5) EACH COUNTY WITH AN APPROVED FINAL PLAN SHALL BE AWARDED FUNDING IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION.

(F) (1) (I) THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE $2,000,000 IN THE FISCAL 2021 BUDGET FOR THE SUPPLEMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.

(II) IN FISCAL YEAR 2022 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE AN ADDITIONAL $500,000 OVER THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR APPROPRIATION FOR THE SUPPLEMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION. THE STATE AND LOCAL SHARES OF FUNDING REQUIRED FOR A COUNTY WITH AN APPROVED FINAL PLAN SHALL BE EQUAL TO THE STATE AND LOCAL SHARE PERCENTAGES ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE AND LOCAL COST-SHARE FORMULA
FOR THAT COUNTY REQUIRED UNDER § 5–303(D)(3)(I) OF THE EDUCATION
ARTICLE.

(2) IN EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS
PARAGRAPH, IN EACH FISCAL YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE THE STATE
SHARE OF FUNDS TO FOR EACH COUNTY WITH AN APPROVED FINAL PLAN FOR THE
FISCAL YEAR IN AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE PRODUCT OF:

1. THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF FUNDS APPROPRIATED
UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION MULTIPLIED BY SUBSECTION (G) OF
THIS SECTION; AND

2. THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN HOUSEHOLDS THAT
RECEIVE A FEDERAL BENEFIT UNDER THE FOOD STAMP SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM
RECIPIENTS IN THE COUNTY WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A BENEFIT UNDER THIS
SECTION AND THEN, DIVIDED BY THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN HOUSEHOLDS
THAT RECEIVE A FEDERAL BENEFIT UNDER THE FOOD STAMP SUPPLEMENT
PROGRAM RECIPIENTS IN THE STATE WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A BENEFIT UNDER
THIS SECTION IN ALL COUNTIES WITH AN APPROVED FINAL PLAN.

(II) THE AMOUNT OF FUNDS PROVIDED TO A COUNTY UNDER
SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH MAY NOT BE GREATER THAN THE STATE
SHARE AMOUNT THAT CORRESPONDS TO THE MAXIMUM AVAILABLE LOCAL SHARE
FUNDS CERTIFIED UNDER SUBSECTION (E)(1)(II)5 OF THIS SECTION.

(3) (I) A COUNTY MAY PROVIDE FUNDING IN ADDITION TO THE
FUNDING PROVIDED REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION TO
INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SUPPLEMENTS PROVIDED IN THE COUNTY.

(II) FUNDING PROVIDED BY A COUNTY UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH
(1) OF THIS PARAGRAPH MAY NOT AFFECT THE AMOUNT OF FUNDING THE
DEPARTMENT IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS
SUBSECTION.

(G) EACH YEAR, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET
BILL AN APPROPRIATION OF AT LEAST $200,000 FOR THE SUPPLEMENTS UNDER
SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
October 1, 2019.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, if federal funding is
available, the Department of Human Services, in consultation with the State Department
of Education, shall annually apply for a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to
implement a Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer for Children demonstration project.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before October 1 of each
year, the Department of Human Services shall report, in accordance with § 2–1246 of the
State Government Article, to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and the House
Appropriations Committee on the status of the Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer for
Children grant application and, if a grant has been awarded, the progress toward
implementing a demonstration project.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
1, 2019. Sections 2 and 3 of this Act shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the
end of June 30, 2022, Sections 2 and 3 of this Act, with no further action required by the
General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.