

HOUSE BILL 881

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5l2258
CF 5l2570

By: **Delegates Shetty, Forbes, D. Jones, Kaufman, J. Lewis, Lopez, McCaskill, Smith, and Solomon**

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2025

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Investment Program and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program**
3 **Benefits – Child Support**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring that all child support received in a month pass through to a
5 family seeking assistance under the Family Investment Program and prohibiting the
6 consideration of child support in computing the amount of assistance received;
7 prohibiting a local department of social services from considering any child support
8 collected when computing the amount of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance
9 Program benefits to provide; and generally relating to the Family Investment
10 Program and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – Human Services
13 Section 5–310(a) and 5–501
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Human Services**

19 5–310.

20 (a) (1) For a recipient that is an assistance unit that includes adults and
21 children or minor parents and children, the amount of assistance shall be designated as
22 follows:

23 (i) 75% for the child or children in the assistance unit; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) 25% for the adult member or members, or minor parent or
2 parents of the assistance unit.

3 (2) For a recipient that is an assistance unit that includes only adults or a
4 recipient who is a pregnant individual, 100% of the amount of assistance shall be
5 designated for the adult member or members or the pregnant individual.

6 (3) For applicants to the FIP, the amount of assistance shall be computed
7 by counting no more than 4 weeks of earned income in any month and disregarding 20% of
8 that earned income.

9 (4) [The first \$100 of] ANY child support collected in a month [for one child
10 and the first \$200 of child support collected in a month for two or more children] shall pass
11 through to the family and shall be disregarded in computing the amount of assistance.

12 (5) For eligible recipients who obtain unsubsidized employment, the
13 amount of assistance shall be computed by counting no more than 4 weeks of earned income
14 in any month and disregarding 35% of that earned income.

15 5-501.

16 (a) (1) The Department may implement a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance
17 Program in accordance with the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

18 (2) The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program shall include:

19 (i) a Restaurant Meals Program in accordance with § 5-505 of this
20 subtitle; and

21 (ii) a Heat and Eat Program in accordance with § 5-506 of this
22 subtitle.

23 (b) The State shall bear the nonfederal portion of the administrative costs of the
24 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for each county.

25 (c) Each local department shall administer the Supplemental Nutrition
26 Assistance Program:

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

28 (2) in accordance with the regulations of the Department and federal law.

29 (d) If a household includes an individual who is at least 60 years old and receives
30 a federally funded benefit in an amount less than \$50 per month under the Supplemental
31 Nutrition Assistance Program, the State shall provide a supplement to increase the total
32 benefit to \$50 per month.

1 **(E) A LOCAL DEPARTMENT MAY NOT CONSIDER ANY CHILD SUPPORT**
2 **COLLECTED BY A HOUSEHOLD WHEN COMPUTING THE AMOUNT OF SUPPLEMENTAL**
3 **BENEFITS PROVIDED UNDER THIS SECTION OR § 5-501.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
5 October 1, 2025.