

SENATE BILL NO. 149

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATORS GIESSEL, Dunbar, Gray-Jackson, Olson, Tobin, Wielechowski, Kawasaki, Kiehl, Claman

Introduced: 5/13/23

Referred: Health & Social Services, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to the supplemental nutrition assistance program; and providing for
2 an effective date."

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 * **Section 1.** AS 47.25.980(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) The department shall

6 (1) adopt regulations necessary to carry out the food stamp program;

7 (2) cooperate with the federal government and do all things necessary
8 to continue state eligibility under the food stamp program;

9 (3) comply with the requirements of 7 U.S.C. 2011 - 2036d
10 (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), implement categorical eligibility
11 under 7 U.S.C. 2014(a), and make eligible an individual whose household income
12 is not more than 200 percent of the federal poverty guideline regardless of the
13 value of assets owned by the household [7 U.S.C. 2011 - 2036 (FOOD STAMP
14 PROGRAM)];

1 (4) establish an electronic application for the food stamp program and
2 allow an applicant to submit an application in electronic format or in other formats
3 required by state and federal law; the electronic application must inform an applicant
4 that a false statement made on the application will be investigated and is punishable
5 under AS 11.56.210; in this paragraph, "electronic application" means an application
6 for benefits or renewal of benefits, whether the department exclusively administers the
7 benefits or administers the benefits in coordination with another state agency or
8 federal agency, electronically completed and submitted through the department's
9 Internet website.

10 * **Sec. 2.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
11 read:

12 TRANSITION: REGULATIONS. The Department of Health may adopt regulations
13 necessary to implement the changes made by this Act. The regulations take effect under
14 AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), but not before the effective date of the law
15 implemented by the regulation.

16 * **Sec. 3.** Section 2 of this Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

17 * **Sec. 4.** Except as provided in sec. 3 of this Act, this Act takes effect July 1, 2025.