

HOUSE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

2025 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by House Committee on Appropriations to Engrossed House Bill No. 624 by Representative Berault

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 11, after "(F)(2)," and before "352(1)(a)" insert the following:

"301(A)(1) through (5), (C)(2), and (D)(2), (3), and (5), 321(2) through (5), 322, 323(introductory paragraph), (3), and (4), 324(A), (B), (C), (D), and (E)(introductory paragraph), (1), and (2)(introductory paragraph), 325(introductory paragraph), 326 through 328, 331(A)(1) through (3), 332,"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 14, after "through" and before "and R.S. 46:107(E)" change "1915" to "1905"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 2, line 1, after "237," delete the remainder of the line and delete lines 2 through 5 in their entirety and at the beginning of line 6, delete "332,"

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 2, at the beginning of line 9, delete "and 460.3"

AMENDMENT NO. 5

On page 2, line 11, after "Services" and before "to provide" insert a semicolon ";

AMENDMENT NO. 6

On page 2, line 13, after "Commission" and before "to replace" delete "(LWC);" and insert "(LWC) and the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH);"

AMENDMENT NO. 7

On page 2, line 14, after "Works" and before "in certain" insert "or LDH"

AMENDMENT NO. 8

On page 2, line 16, after "transferred" and before "to change" delete "into Louisiana Works;" and insert "to Louisiana Works or LDH;"

AMENDMENT NO. 9

On page 2, line 18, after "powers of" and before "to provide" delete "the department;" and insert "Louisiana Works;"

AMENDMENT NO. 10

On page 2, line 25, after "regulations for" and before "for the purposes" delete "the department" and insert "Louisiana Works"

1 AMENDMENT NO. 11

2 On page 2, line 29, after "duties of" and before "in regards" delete "the department" and insert
3 "LDH"

4 AMENDMENT NO. 12

5 On page 3, line 9, after "Award" change "program;" to Program;"

6 AMENDMENT NO. 13

7 On page 3, line 13, after "Louisiana" delete the remainder of the line and insert "Works and
8 LDH; to"

9 AMENDMENT NO. 14

10 On page 3, line 17, after "Louisiana" and before "to provide" delete "Works;" and insert
11 "Works or LDH; to provide for the transfer of monies related to the transferred programs
12 from DCFS to Louisiana Works and LDH;"

13 AMENDMENT NO. 15

14 On page 4, line 12, after "R.S. 14:68.2.1(A)" and before "hereby" delete "and 74(D)(2) are"
15 and insert "is"

16 AMENDMENT NO. 16

17 On page 4, at the end of line 16, delete "Louisiana" and at the beginning of line 17, delete
18 "Works," and insert "the Louisiana Department of Health,"

19 AMENDMENT NO. 17

20 On page 4, line 21, after "to the" delete "fraud detection section,"

21 AMENDMENT NO. 18

22 On page 4, delete line 22 and at the beginning of line 23, delete "training of Louisiana Works"
23 and insert "Louisiana Department of Health"

24 AMENDMENT NO. 19

25 On page 4, between lines 25 and 26, insert the following:

26 "Section 3. R.S. 14:74(D)(2) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:"

27 AMENDMENT NO. 20

28 On page 5, at the beginning of line 15, change "Section 3." to "Section 4."

29 AMENDMENT NO. 21

30 On page 5, at the end of line 17, change "Works" to "Department of Health"

31 AMENDMENT NO. 22

32 On page 5, at the beginning of line 19, change "Louisiana Works" to "the Louisiana
33 Department of Health"

1 AMENDMENT NO. 23

2 On page 5, line 23, after "longer." and before "shall" change "Louisiana Works" to "The
3 Louisiana Department of Health"

4 AMENDMENT NO. 24

5 On page 5, at the beginning of line 28, change "Louisiana Works" to "the Louisiana
6 Department of Health"

7 AMENDMENT NO. 25

8 On page 6, at the beginning of line 2, change "Louisiana Works" to "the Louisiana
9 Department of Health"

10 AMENDMENT NO. 26

11 On page 6, line 8, after "Section," and before "shall" change "Louisiana Works" to "the
12 Louisiana Department of Health"

13 AMENDMENT NO. 27

14 On page 6, line 11, change "Section 4." to "Section 5."

15 AMENDMENT NO. 28

16 On page 6, line 19, after "of literacy" delete the comma ","

17 AMENDMENT NO. 29

18 On page 8, at the beginning of line 6, change "Louisiana Works" to "the Louisiana
19 Department of Health"

20 AMENDMENT NO. 30

21 On page 8, at the beginning of line 17, change "Louisiana Works." to "the Louisiana
22 Department of Health."

23 AMENDMENT NO. 31

24 On page 8, line 19, change "Section 5." to "Section 6."

25 AMENDMENT NO. 32

26 On page 8, line 22, after "1600(2) and (3)(a)," delete the remainder of the line and at the
27 beginning of line 23, delete "(3) and (J)" and insert "and 1693(J)"

28 AMENDMENT NO. 33

29 On page 8, line 25, after "through" and before "are" change "1915," to "1905,"

30 AMENDMENT NO. 34

31 On page 9, line 8, after "living services," and before "and" delete "disability determinations,"

32 AMENDMENT NO. 35

33 On page 9, line 10, after "compensation," and before "and certain" delete "and supplemental
34 nutrition"

1 AMENDMENT NO. 36

2 On page 10, line 13, after "Assistance" and before "Needy" change "to" to "for"

3 AMENDMENT NO. 37

4 On page 18, line 26, after "Departments of" and before "Education," insert "Children and
5 Family Services,"

6 AMENDMENT NO. 38

7 On page 18, line 27, after "Corrections," and before "and Veterans" delete "Social Services,"

8 AMENDMENT NO. 39

9 On page 19, delete lines 19 and 20 and insert the following:

10 "receiving its services a unique identifier. The individual's Social Security number,
11 unless prohibited by federal law, may to be used to link disparate data bases. Social
12 Security numbers shall only be used for the purpose of determining employment and
13 earnings outcomes of the workforce development and social services programs or
14 identifying potential fraud. Only authorized personnel shall have access to personally
15 identifiable information and Social Security numbers shall be removed from the
16 respective data sets for any additional evaluation purposes."

17 AMENDMENT NO. 40

18 On page 23, line 10, change "(2)(a) of this Subsection" to "(a) of this Paragraph"

19 AMENDMENT NO. 41

20 On page 23, delete lines 24 through 28 and delete page 24, and on page 25, delete lines 1
21 through 6

22 AMENDMENT NO. 42

23 On page 26, delete lines 1 through 24 and at the beginning of line 25, change "§1823." to
24 "§1822."

25 AMENDMENT NO. 43

26 On page 26, line 29, after "44" and before "of the" delete the period "._"

27 AMENDMENT NO. 44

28 On page 27, line 1, change "§1824." to "§1823."

29 AMENDMENT NO. 45

30 On page 27, line 16, change "§1825." "§1824."

31 AMENDMENT NO. 46

32 On page 32, line 10, after "under" and before "TANF," delete "SNAP or"

33 AMENDMENT NO. 47

34 On page 32, line 13, after "such" and before "TANF" delete "SNAP benefits or"

1 AMENDMENT NO. 48

2 On page 34, at the end of line 28, change "R.S. 23:1882.8(G)." to "R.S. 23:1852.8(G)."

3 AMENDMENT NO. 49

4 Delete pages 36 through 44 in their entirety and on page 45, delete lines 1 through 12 and
5 insert the following:

6 "PART III. SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAMS
7 SUBPART A. AID TO NEEDY FAMILIES
8 §1851. Legislative intent"

9 AMENDMENT NO. 50

10 On page 46, line 3, change "§1882." to "§1852."

11 AMENDMENT NO. 51

12 On page 50, line 20, change "§1882.1." to "§1852.1."

13 AMENDMENT NO. 52

14 On page 51, line 1, change "§1882.2." to "§1852.2."

15 AMENDMENT NO. 53

16 On page 51, line 27, change "§1882.3." to "§1852.3."

17 AMENDMENT NO. 54

18 On page 52, line 25, change "R.S. 23:1882." to "R.S. 23:1852."

19 AMENDMENT NO. 55

20 On page 53, line 5, change "§1882.4." to "§1852.4."

21 AMENDMENT NO. 56

22 On page 53, line 18, change "§1882.5." to "§1852.5."

23 AMENDMENT NO. 57

24 On page 54, line 6, change "R.S. 23:1882.6" to "R.S. 23:1852.6"

25 AMENDMENT NO. 58

26 On page 54, line 7, change "§1882.6." to "§1852.6."

27 AMENDMENT NO. 59

28 On page 54, line 26, change "R.S. 23:1882" to "R.S. 23:1852"

29 AMENDMENT NO. 60

30 On page 55, line 13, change "§1882.7." to "§1852.7."

1 AMENDMENT NO. 61

2 On page 55, line 20, change "§1882.8." to "§1852.8."

3 AMENDMENT NO. 62

4 On page 55, line 27, change "R.S. 23:1882." to "R.S. 23:1852."

5 AMENDMENT NO. 63

6 On page 58, line 6, change "§1883." to "§1853."

7 AMENDMENT NO. 64

8 On page 58, line 14, change "§1884." to "§1854."

9 AMENDMENT NO. 65

10 On page 58, line 18, change "§1884.1." to "§1854.1."

11 AMENDMENT NO. 66

12 On page 59, line 3, change "§1884.2." to "§1854.2."

13 AMENDMENT NO. 67

14 On page 59, line 13, change "§1885." to "§1855."

15 AMENDMENT NO. 68

16 On page 59, line 27, change "§1886." to "§1856."

17 AMENDMENT NO. 69

18 On page 60, line 4, change "§1887." to "§1857."

19 AMENDMENT NO. 70

20 On page 60, line 7, change "§1888." to "§1858."

21 AMENDMENT NO. 71

22 On page 60, line 15, change "§1889." to "§1859."

23 AMENDMENT NO. 72

24 On page 60, delete line 28 and insert "in R.S. 23:1852."

25 AMENDMENT NO. 73

26 On page 62, line 22, change "R.S. 23:1882." to "R.S. 23:1852."

27 AMENDMENT NO. 74

28 On page 63, line 3, change "SUBPART E." to "SUBPART B."

29 AMENDMENT NO. 75

30 On page 63, line 4, change "§1891." to "§1881."

1 AMENDMENT NO. 76

2 On page 63, line 11, change "§1891.1." to "§1881.1."

3 AMENDMENT NO. 77

4 On page 63, line 18 change "§1891.2." to "§1881.2."

5 AMENDMENT NO. 78

6 On page 64, line 23, change "§1891.3." to "§1881.3."

7 AMENDMENT NO. 79

8 On page 65, at the end of line 4, change "R.S. 23:1882.5(A)(1)." to "R.S. 23:1852.5(A)(1)."

9 AMENDMENT NO. 80

10 On page 65, line 12, change "§1891.4." to "§1881.4."

11 AMENDMENT NO. 81

12 On page 67, line 1, change "§1891.5." to "§1881.5."

13 AMENDMENT NO. 82

14 On page 68, line 2, change "§1891.6." to "§1881.6."

15 AMENDMENT NO. 83

16 On page 69, line 6, change "§1891.7." to "§1881.7."

17 AMENDMENT NO. 84

18 On page 69, line 23, change "§1891.8." to "§1881.8."

19 AMENDMENT NO. 85

20 On page 71, line 16, change "SUBPART F." to "SUBPART C."

21 AMENDMENT NO. 86

22 On page 71, line 18, change "§1901." to "§1891."

23 AMENDMENT NO. 87

24 On page 71, line 26, change "§1902." to "§1892."

25 AMENDMENT NO. 88

26 On page 72, line 11, change "§1903." to "§1893."

27 AMENDMENT NO. 89

28 On page 72, line 19, change "§1904." to "§1894."

29 AMENDMENT NO. 90

30 On page 73, line 2, change "§1905." to "§1895."

1 AMENDMENT NO. 91

2 On page 73, line 8, change "SUBPART G." to "SUBPART D."

3 AMENDMENT NO. 92

4 On page 73, line 9, change "§1911." to "§1901."

5 AMENDMENT NO. 93

6 On page 73, line 15, change "§1912." to "§1902."

7 AMENDMENT NO. 94

8 On page 73, at the end of line 21, change "R.S. 23:1884." to "R.S. 23:1854."

9 AMENDMENT NO. 95

10 On page 73, line 22, change "§1913." to "§1903."

11 AMENDMENT NO. 96

12 On page 74, line 1, change "§1914." to "§1904."

13 AMENDMENT NO. 97

14 On page 74, line 14, change "§1915." to "§1905."

15 AMENDMENT NO. 98

16 On page 74, at the end of line 19, delete "Supplemental Nutrition" and at the beginning of line
17 20, delete "Assistance Program (SNAP) and"

18 AMENDMENT NO. 99

19 On page 75, line 26, change "Section 6." to "Section 7."

20 AMENDMENT NO. 100

21 On page 76, line 3, after "Departments of" and before "Education," insert "Children and
22 Family Services."

23 AMENDMENT NO. 101

24 On page 76, line 4, after "Corrections," and before "and Veterans" delete "Social Services,"

25 AMENDMENT NO. 102

26 On page 76, between lines 8 and 9, insert the following:

27 "Section 8. R.S. 23:1693(I)(1), (2), and (3) are hereby amended and reenacted
28 to read as follows:
29 §1693. Assignment of benefits; exemption of benefits from levy or execution;
30 deduction for support; deduction for overissuance of ~~food stamps~~ SNAP
31 benefits
32 * * *
33 I.(1) ~~Upon and subject to implementation by the United States Department~~
34 ~~of Agriculture and agreement with the Louisiana Department of Children and Family~~
35 ~~Services for and on behalf of the state food stamp program, the administrator of the~~

~~office of employment security shall develop the procedure for reimbursement of all related administrative costs of any and all performed activities by the office of employment security under this Subsection attributable to the repayment of uncollected overissuance of food stamp allotments:~~

(a) An individual filing a new claim in the state for unemployment compensation shall, at the time of filing such claim, disclose whether he owes an uncollected overissuance of ~~food stamp coupons~~ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits referred to in this Subsection as "SNAP benefits", as defined in Section 13(c)(1) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977, 7 U.S.C. 2022(c)(1). ~~The administrator shall notify the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services, or its designated office, of any individual who discloses that he owes any food stamp overissuance and who is determined to be eligible and qualified for unemployment compensation.~~

(b) The administrator shall deduct and withhold from any unemployment compensation payable to an individual who owes an uncollected overissuance of ~~food stamps~~ SNAP benefits:

(i) Any amount specified by the individual to the administrator to be deducted and withheld under this Subsection ~~if the administrator also receives confirmation from the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services that there has been an enforceable determination of overissuance.~~

(ii) Any amount determined pursuant to an agreement, if any, between the individual and the Louisiana Department of ~~Children and Family Services under Health pursuant to~~ Section 13(c)(3)(A) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977, 7 U.S.C. 2022(c)(3)(A).

(iii) Any amount otherwise required to be deducted and withheld under an enforceable court order or garnishment pursuant to Section 13(c)(3)(B) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977, 7 U.S.C. 2022 (c)(3)(B).

(2) Any amount deducted and withheld ~~under~~ pursuant to this Subsection shall be paid by the ~~administrator unemployment insurance program to the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services, or its designated office~~ SNAP program.

(3) Any amount deducted and withheld from payable benefits ~~under~~ pursuant to this Subsection shall for all purposes be treated as if it were paid to the individual as unemployment compensation and paid by such individual ~~to the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services as repayment of the uncollected overissuance of food stamp allotments~~ SNAP benefits.

* * *

AMENDMENT NO. 103

On page 76, line 9, change "Section 7." to "Section 9."

AMENDMENT NO. 104

On page 77, line 24, after "services," and before "employment," delete "disability determinations,"

AMENDMENT NO. 105

On page 78, at the beginning of line 7, delete the comma ","

AMENDMENT NO. 106

On page 79, at the end of line 25, delete "the"

AMENDMENT NO. 107

On page 80, delete lines 3 through 14 and insert the following:

"F. The powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities related to the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, including employment

1 and training programs, are hereby transferred to Louisiana Works (R.S. 23:1821 et
2 seq.) to be exercised and performed by the secretary, in accordance with the
3 provisions of Part II of Chapter 22 of Title 36, R.S. 36:851 et seq.

4 Section 10. R.S. 46:301(A)(1) through (5), (C)(2), and (D)(2), (3), and (5),
5 321(2) through (5), 322, 323(introductory paragraph), (3), and (4), 324(A), (B), (C),
6 (D), and (E)(introductory paragraph), (1), and (2)(introductory paragraph),
7 325(introductory paragraph), 326 through 328, 331(A)(1) through (3), 332, 352(1)(b),
8 932(12), and 936 are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

9 §301. Legislative findings; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program educational
10 component; reporting requirements

11 A. The legislature finds and declares the following:

12 (1) The program formerly known as "food stamps" was renamed the
13 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in October 2008. SNAP is
14 administered at the federal level by the United States Department of Agriculture Food
15 and Nutrition Service (FNS) and at the state level by the Louisiana Department of
16 ~~Children and Family Services~~ Health, hereafter referred to as the "department".

17 (2) SNAP is the cornerstone of the federal food assistance programs and
18 provides crucial support to needy households and to those making the transition from
19 welfare public assistance to work.

20 (3) By federal policy, SNAP benefits may be used only for the purchase of
21 nonalcoholic beverages and food which is not hot at the point of sale and may not be
22 used to purchase any nonfood items.

23 (4) The population of Louisiana has historically encompassed one of the
24 highest proportions of SNAP recipients customers in the nation.

25 (5) Federal regulations allow states to administer educational services within
26 the SNAP. These program. ~~Such~~ services are known as SNAP Education, and are
27 designed to teach food budgeting, proper nutrition, and healthy food choices to SNAP
28 recipients customers.

29 * * *

30 C. In administering the SNAP Education program of this state, the department
31 and all subcontractors and affiliates of such program shall:

32 * * *

33 (2) Coordinate outreach and educational efforts to the greatest possible extent
34 with those of the Women, Infants, and Children (~~WIC~~) Program, referred to in this
35 Subpart as the "WIC Program", of this state.

36 D. On or before March first annually, the department shall submit to the
37 House Committee on Health and Welfare and the Senate Committee on Health and
38 Welfare a comprehensive report on the SNAP Education Program. The report shall
39 include but not be limited to the following items:

40 * * *

41 (2) Data on SNAP Education participants customers, including a description
42 of the ideal target population, actual number of participants customers served,
43 geographic distribution of participants customers, and participant customer
44 demographics.

45 (3) A description of program operations, including details on selection of
46 participants customers, service delivery, and activities conducted by all SNAP
47 Education program contractors and subcontractors.

48 * * *

49 (5) Analysis of program outcomes and other significant impacts ~~to on~~ SNAP
50 Education service recipients customers.

51 * * *

52 SUBPART E-4. SNAP WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION
53 PILOT INITIATIVE

54 §321. Findings

55 The legislature hereby finds and declares the following:

56 * * *

(2) The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as "food stamps" and referred to ~~hereafter in this Subpart~~ as "SNAP", provides crucial support to needy households and to persons making the transition from ~~welfare~~ public assistance to work.

(3) Pursuant to the federal Food Security Act of 1985, states are required to provide employment and job training services to SNAP ~~recipients~~ customers who are not exempt from the mandatory work registration requirements of the program.

(4) Federal regulations (~~7 CFR 273.24~~), 7 CFR 273.24, limit the duration of receipt of SNAP benefits by nonworking, able-bodied adults without dependents who do not qualify for certain exemptions to a total of three months in any three-year period. However, states may submit to the federal government applications, commonly known as "waivers", to have this three-month limit waived. If approved, such waivers allow able-bodied, nonworking, nonexempt adults to receive SNAP benefits for an unlimited duration ~~provided that if~~ those persons meet other eligibility standards of the program. Nationally, waivers of this type have become the standard in SNAP rather than the exception, as forty states and territories, including Louisiana, had a statewide or territory-wide waiver in effect and six other states and territories had a partial-state or partial-territory waiver in effect as of January 1, 2014.

(5) When coordinated and delivered in an effective manner, workforce training services for public assistance ~~recipients~~ customers can be of great value to persons who desire to become self-sufficient and to businesses that strive for greater competitiveness through employing an improved workforce.

§322. Definitions

As used in this Subpart, the following terms have the meaning ascribed to them in this Section:

(1) "ABAWD" means an able-bodied adult without a dependent who receives SNAP benefits.

(2) "Customer" means a recipient of SNAP benefits who participates in the program provided for in this Subpart.

~~(2) (3)~~ "Department" means the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services Health.

~~(3) (4)~~ "FNS" means the Food and Nutrition Service of the United States Department of Agriculture, the office of the federal government that administers SNAP.

~~(4)~~ "Participant" means a recipient of SNAP benefits who participates in the pilot initiative provided for in this Subpart.

~~(5)~~ ~~"Pilot initiative"~~ "Program" means the workforce training and education pilot initiative program provided for in this Subpart.

(6) "SNAP" means the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program administered at the federal level by the Food and Nutrition Service of the United States Department of Agriculture and at the state level by the Louisiana Department of ~~Children and Family Services Health~~.

§323. Goals

The goals of the ~~pilot initiative~~ shall program include, without limitation, the following:

* * *

(3) To provide support to SNAP ~~recipients~~ customers who choose to further their education.

(4) To yield a model for incentivizing training and education for public assistance ~~recipients~~ customers that can be replicated throughout the state.

§324. Workforce training and education ~~pilot initiative program~~; creation; functions

A. A workforce training and education ~~pilot initiative~~ program is hereby created within SNAP for the purpose of improving employment opportunities for nonworking SNAP ~~recipients~~ customers and enhancing workforce readiness. The department shall administer the ~~pilot initiative~~ program in accordance with the provisions of this Subpart.

B. The department shall establish the ~~pilot initiative program~~ in a parish with a population of more than one hundred thousand and less than one hundred fifty thousand according to the latest federal decennial census and in which is located the main campus of a public four-year college or university.

C. ~~Participants~~ Customers to be served by the ~~pilot initiative program~~ shall include, exclusively, all ABAWDs residing in the parish who are not exempted by any federal or state policy, other than through a waiver of such a policy, from the limitation on SNAP benefits established pursuant to 7 CFR 273.24.

D.(1) As a necessary precondition for implementing the ~~pilot initiative program~~, the department shall ensure that the limitation on duration of the receipt of SNAP benefit ~~receipt~~ benefits by nonexempt ABAWDs provided in 7 CFR 273.24 is effective in the parish in which the ~~pilot initiative program~~ is established.

(2) If nonexempt ABAWDs in the parish in which the ~~pilot initiative program~~ is established are not subject to any limitation on duration of eligibility for receipt of SNAP benefits as a result of a waiver granted to the state by FNS, then the department shall cause ~~such the~~ waiver to be rescinded, cancelled, or otherwise rendered null and without effect for that parish.

(3) Nothing in this Subsection shall be construed to require or prohibit the continuation or cancellation of any waiver granted to the state by FNS in any parish other than the parish in which the ~~pilot initiative program~~ is established.

E. As its essential function, the ~~pilot initiative program~~ shall provide to each ~~participant~~ customer, at the time of benefits eligibility redetermination, a six-month extension of SNAP benefits conditioned upon submission of sufficient documentation, as determined by the department, of ~~one or more~~ any of the following:

(1) The ~~participant~~ customer meets ~~one or more~~ any of the following criteria relative to educational advancement:

(a) In the previous six months, the ~~participant~~ customer satisfied requirements established by the department in rule relative to enrollment in an accredited postsecondary ~~educational~~ education institution that grants associate or baccalaureate degrees.

(b) In the previous six months, the ~~participant~~ customer satisfied requirements established by the department in rule relative to enrollment in ~~a~~ an educational program designed to lead to a high school diploma.

(c) In the previous six months, the ~~participant~~ customer satisfied requirements established by the department in rules relative to enrollment in a general education development test preparation course.

(d) The ~~participant~~ customer earned a high school diploma or a general education development certificate.

(2) The ~~participant~~ customer meets criteria relative to workforce readiness as required by the department in rule. Such criteria may include but shall not be limited to the following:

* * *

§325. Duties of ~~participants~~ customers

Each ~~participant~~ customer in the pilot initiative shall do all of the following:

* * *

§326. Duties of the department

A. The department shall submit to FNS applications for any waiver, exemption, or other formal authorization and any state plan amendment as may be necessary to implement the ~~pilot initiative program~~ provided for in this Subpart. Such submissions by the department to FNS shall provide for all of the following:

(1) Reinstatement in the parish ~~in which the pilot initiative~~ where the program is established of the limit on receipt of SNAP benefits of three months in a three-year period for ABAWDs.

(2) Establishment of benefit extensions in six-month increments for ~~participants~~ customers who meet workforce training or education requirements of the ~~pilot initiative program~~.

(3) Any other functions as may be necessary for the department to establish and operate the ~~pilot initiative~~ program in a manner ~~which~~ that conforms with applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

B. The department shall enter into any cooperative endeavor agreements, contracts, and other arrangements with ~~the Louisiana Workforce Commission~~, any other government agency, ~~and~~ or any community partner as may be necessary to ensure adequate availability of workforce training to ~~participants~~ customers in the parish in which the ~~pilot initiative~~ program is established.

C. The department shall institute all departmental policies and procedures necessary to ensure that the process for SNAP benefits eligibility redetermination in the parish ~~in which the pilot initiative~~ where the program is established meets all of the following requirements:

(1) Eligibility redetermination for each ~~participant~~ customer occurs no less frequently than once every six months.

(2) Eligibility redetermination for each ~~participant~~ includes customer shall include a procedure for collecting and verifying documentation from the ~~participant~~ customer of his engagement in a workforce training or education activity as provided in R.S. 46:324.

D.(1)(a) ~~Prior to commencement of the pilot initiative, the~~ The department shall transmit notice in writing to all ABAWDs in the parish ~~in which the pilot initiative~~ where the program is established indicating that continuation of benefits beyond the three-month limit that is to be reinstated will be conditioned upon engagement by ~~participants~~ customers in acceptable workforce training or education activities.

(b) ~~On separate days prior to commencement of the pilot initiative, the~~ The department may transmit to ABAWDs in the parish ~~in which the pilot initiative~~ where the program is established duplicates of the notice provided for in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph, and may take any other actions it deems necessary to provide ABAWDs with adequate notification of the changes in SNAP benefits eligibility to be instituted through the ~~pilot initiative~~ program.

(2) ~~Within two weeks of commencement of the pilot initiative, the~~ The department shall transmit to each ~~participant~~ customer a form that provides a clear description of requirements for continuation of benefits eligibility to be instituted through the ~~pilot initiative~~ program, and a space in which the ~~participant~~ customer may affirmatively acknowledge that he understands these requirements.

(3) During the operation of the ~~pilot initiative~~ program, the department shall promptly notify each ~~participant~~ customer of any decision concerning his eligibility for SNAP benefits made pursuant to the redetermination process provided for in Subsection C of this Section.

E. The secretary of the department shall promulgate all rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act as ~~may be~~ necessary to implement the provisions of this Subpart.

§327. Notification to legislative committees; reporting

A. After receiving federal approval as provided in R.S. 46:328 and before commencement of the pilot initiative, the department shall transmit to the members of the House Committee on Health and Welfare and to the members of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare a written notice that addresses the purpose and function of the ~~pilot initiative~~ and indicates the commencement date of the initiative program. The department may transmit the notice required by this Subsection via electronic mail.

B. ~~No later than twelve months after commencement of the pilot initiative, and at least annually thereafter, the~~ The department shall annually submit a written report providing a summary and evaluation of outcomes of the ~~pilot initiative~~ program to the House Committee on Health and Welfare and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare. The department may include the report with its submission of any other report pertaining to SNAP, including without limitation any report required by Subpart E-2 of this Part.

§328. ~~Effectiveness contingent upon federal approval; termination~~ Termination of the program

A. ~~Implementation of the pilot initiative shall be contingent upon approval by FNS.~~

B.~~(1)~~ Subject to legislative oversight as provided in the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq., the department may terminate the pilot initiative program by emergency rule if the secretary of the department determines that workforce participation outcomes or educational attainment have not improved to a satisfactory degree as a result of the initiative program.

~~(2) The secretary of the department is hereby authorized and directed to collaborate with the secretary of the Louisiana Workforce Commission in workforce participation outcomes evaluation prior to issuing any emergency rule to terminate the pilot initiative.~~

SUBPART E-5. SNAP WORK REQUIREMENTS

§331. Findings and intent

A. The legislature hereby finds and declares the following:

(1) It is the policy of this state to encourage self-sufficiency so that Louisianians may reduce dependence on public ~~benefits~~ assistance to meet basic needs and become economically self-reliant.

(2) The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as "food stamps" and referred to ~~hereafter~~ in this Subpart as "SNAP", provides support to needy households and to persons making the transition from ~~welfare~~ public assistance to work.

(3) Federal regulations provided for in 7 CFR 273.24 limit the duration of receipt of SNAP benefits by nonworking, able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWD) who do not qualify for certain exemptions to a total of three months in any three-year period. However, states may submit to the federal government applications, commonly known as "waivers", to have this three-month limit waived. If approved, such waivers allow able-bodied, nonworking, nonexempt adults to receive SNAP benefits for an unlimited duration if those persons meet other eligibility standards of the program. Louisiana has long used these waivers to exempt the majority of able-bodied adults without dependents from the federal work requirement.

* * *

§332. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program work requirements; restriction on waivers and exemptions

A. Unless expressly required by federal law, the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services Health shall not seek, apply for, accept, or renew any waiver of work requirements established by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program under 7 U.S.C. 2015(o).

B. The Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services Health shall not exercise the state's option to provide any exemptions from the work requirement under 7 U.S.C. 2015(o)(6)(F).

* * *

§352. Definitions

As used in this Part, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Public assistance" means any of the following:

* * *

(b) Nutrition assistance benefits of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program administered by the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services Health.

* * *

§932. Powers and duties

The office shall have the following powers and duties:

* * *

(12) To administer all federal funds appropriated, allocated, or otherwise made available to the state for services to the elderly, whether by block grant or in any other form, with the exception of funds for programs administered by the Department of Children and Family Services or the Louisiana Department of Health, on August 15, 1995, or the Louisiana Department of Health on October 1, 2025, and to distribute those funds in accordance with and consistent with R.S. 46:936.

* * *

§936. Statement of intent

A. It is the intention of the legislature that, insofar as is practical and consistent with the efficient administration of state government, programs and services for the elderly population of Louisiana, with the exception of any program administered by the Department of Children and Family Services or the Louisiana Department of Health on August 15, 1995, or the Louisiana Department of Health on October 1, 2025, shall eventually be consolidated within the office of elderly affairs, to be administered at the local level by the sixty-four parish voluntary councils on aging.

B. It is further the intention of the legislature that the ~~Office of Elderly Affairs~~ office of elderly affairs administer all federal funds appropriated, allocated, or otherwise made available to the state for services to the elderly, whether by block grant or in any other form, with the exception of funds for programs administered by the Department of Children and Family Services or the Louisiana Department of Health on August 15, 1995, or the Louisiana Department of Health on October 1, 2025. The office of elderly affairs shall distribute such funds in accordance with appropriate state and federal requirements and consistent with this Section."

AMENDMENT NO. 108

On page 80, line 15, change "Section 8." to "Section 11."

AMENDMENT NO. 109

On page 80, line 16, after "352(1)(a)" and before "and (2)(a)," delete "and (b)"

AMENDMENT NO. 110

On page 81, line 2, after "administers" delete the remainder of the line and at the beginning of line 3, delete "program", "nutrition,"

AMENDMENT NO. 111

On page 81, line 8, after "this" and before "shall" change "Section" to "Subsection"

AMENDMENT NO. 112

On page 83, delete lines 23 through 25

AMENDMENT NO. 113

On page 84, line 8, after "1995" and before "or Louisiana" insert a comma "," and insert "the Louisiana Department of Health on October 1, 2025,"

AMENDMENT NO. 114

On page 84, line 16, after "1995" and before "or Louisiana" insert a comma "," and insert "the Louisiana Department of Health on October 1, 2025,"

1 AMENDMENT NO. 115

2 On page 84, line 24, after "1995" and before "or Louisiana" insert a comma ", " and insert "the
3 Louisiana Department of Health on October 1, 2025,"

4 AMENDMENT NO. 116

5 On page 84, line 28, change "Section 9." to "Section 12."

6 AMENDMENT NO. 117

7 On page 85, line 4, after "1995" and before "or Louisiana" insert a comma ", " and insert "the
8 Louisiana Department of Health on October 1, 2025,"

9 AMENDMENT NO. 118

10 On page 85, line 13, after "1995" and before "or Louisiana" insert a comma ", " and insert "the
11 Louisiana Department of Health on October 1, 2025,"

12 AMENDMENT NO. 119

13 On page 85, line 17, change "Section 10." to "Section 13."

14 AMENDMENT NO. 120

15 On page 86, line 8, delete "Section 11. R.S. 23:18," and insert "Section 14. R.S. 23:18 and"

16 AMENDMENT NO. 121

17 On page 86, at the end of line 10, delete "Subpart E-" and delete lines 11 through 14 in their
18 entirety

19 AMENDMENT NO. 122

20 On page 86, line 17, after "R.S. 46:460.1" and before "through" delete "and 460.3"

21 AMENDMENT NO. 123

22 On page 86, line 19, change "Section 12." to "Section 15."

23 AMENDMENT NO. 124

24 On page 86, line 27, change "Section 13." to "Section 16."

25 AMENDMENT NO. 125

26 On page 87, line 5, change "Section 14." to "Section 17."

27 AMENDMENT NO. 126

28 On page 87, line 6, change "Act," to "Section,"

29 AMENDMENT NO. 127

30 On page 87, line 7, change "Section 15." to "Section 18.(A)"

31 AMENDMENT NO. 128

32 On page 87, line 10, change "Act" to "Section"

- 1 AMENDMENT NO. 129
- 2 On page 87, line 13, change "Section 16.(A)' to "(B)(1)"
- 3 AMENDMENT NO. 130
- 4 On page 87, line 17, change "Act" to "Section"
- 5 AMENDMENT NO. 131
- 6 On page 87, line 20, change "(B)" to "(2)"
- 7 AMENDMENT NO. 132
- 8 On page 87, line 24, change "Section 17.(A)" to "(C)(1)"
- 9 AMENDMENT NO. 133
- 10 On page 88, line 3, change "(B)" to "(2)"
- 11 AMENDMENT NO. 134
- 12 On page 88, line 9, change "Section 18." to "(D)"
- 13 AMENDMENT NO. 135
- 14 On page 88, line 10, after "Assistance" and before "Needy" change "to" to "for"
- 15 AMENDMENT NO. 136
- 16 On page 88, line 21, change "Section 19." to "Section 19.(A)"
- 17 AMENDMENT NO. 137
- 18 On page 88, at the beginning of line 22, change "6" to "7"
- 19 AMENDMENT NO. 138
- 20 On page 88, delete line 25, and insert "(B) The provisions of R.S. 46:936 as amended and
- 21 reenacted in Section 10"
- 22 AMENDMENT NO. 139
- 23 On page 88, line 29, change "Section 21.(A)" to "Section 20.(A)"
- 24 AMENDMENT NO. 140
- 25 On page 89, line 29, change "Section 22.(A)" to "Section 21.(A)"
- 26 AMENDMENT NO. 141
- 27 On page 90, at the end of line 1, delete "Workforce" and delete line 2 and insert "Department
- 28 of Health, or its successors."
- 29 AMENDMENT NO. 142
- 30 On page 90, line 5, after "Louisiana" and before "or its" delete "Workforce Commission," and
- 31 insert "Department of Health,"

1 AMENDMENT NO. 143

2 On page 90, line 7, after "Louisiana" and before "or its" delete "Workforce Commission," and
3 insert "Department of Health,"

4 AMENDMENT NO. 144

5 On page 90, line 10, change "Section 23." to "Section 22."

6 AMENDMENT NO. 145

7 On page 90, delete lines 14 through 22 and insert the following:

8 "Section 23.(A) The administrative rules contained in the Louisiana
9 Administrative Code promulgated by the Department of Children and Family Services
10 which govern or are applicable to the programs and operations transferred from the
11 Department of Children and Family Services to the Louisiana Department of Health
12 by this Act shall continue to be effective, and the office of state register shall change
13 all applicable references to the Department of Children and Family Services to the
14 Louisiana Department of Health and redesignate and renumber, as needed, all
15 applicable provisions as are necessary to maintain continuity in the Louisiana
16 Administrative Code.

17 (B) All Department of Children and Family Services contracts for the
18 programs and activities transferred to the Louisiana Department of Health by this Act
19 shall be deemed to have been transferred and assigned to the Louisiana Department
20 of Health upon the effective date of this Section without the necessity of contractual
21 amendment, and the Louisiana Department of Health shall be solely responsible for
22 all related obligations and liabilities arising on or after that effective date.

23 (C)(1) In order to ensure continuity of services during the transition period,
24 all Department of Children and Family Services contracts related to the operation and
25 administration of the programs transferred to the Louisiana Department of Health
26 shall be deemed to have been transferred and assigned to the Louisiana Department
27 of Health upon the effective date of this Section without the necessity of contractual
28 amendment, and the Louisiana Department of Health shall be solely responsible for
29 all related obligations and liabilities arising on or after that effective date.

30 (2) In order to ensure continuity of services during the transition period, any
31 pending or unfinished business of the programs being transferred over shall be taken
32 over and completed by the Louisiana Department of Health with the same power and
33 authorization as that of the Department of Children and Family Services.

34 (D)(1) All employees engaged in the performance of duties relating to the
35 functions of the programs and services transferred from the Department of Children
36 and Family Services to the Louisiana Department of Health are hereby transferred to
37 the Louisiana Department of Health to carry out the functions of the Louisiana
38 Department of Health and its programs and services and shall continue to perform
39 their duties, subject to applicable state civil service laws, rules, and regulations.
40 Subject to such laws, positions in the unclassified service shall remain in the
41 unclassified service. Upon the transfer of employees to the Louisiana Department of
42 Health, such employees shall immediately have the ability to payroll deduct or direct
43 deposit their payroll earnings in favor of any credit union of which they were
44 members prior to the transfer.

45 (2) The Department of State Civil Service shall assist the Department of
46 Children and Family Services and the Louisiana Department of Health in all human
47 resource activities deemed necessary to make such a transfer. All human resource
48 activities shall include, but are not limited to the transfer of personnel files and other
49 related confidential documents, position descriptions, retirement benefits, and related
50 benefits, including but not limited to those offered by the Office of Group Benefits.

51 (E) The commissioner of administration is hereby authorized and directed to
52 make necessary adjustments to appropriations for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 to conform

1 with the provisions of this Act. Adjustments shall be through the notification of
2 appropriation process or through approval of mid-year adjustments.

3 Section 24.(A) This Section, Sections 17 and 20, and the provisions of R.S.
4 23:1600(2) and (3)(a) as amended and reenacted in Section 6 of this Act shall become
5 effective on July 1, 2025.

6 (B) The provisions of Sections 7, 12, and 19 of this Act shall become effective
7 when Act No. 384 of the 2013 Regular Session of the Legislature becomes effective.

8 (C) Sections 2, 4, 8, 10, and 23 of this Act shall become effective October 1,
9 2025.

10 (D) Sections 1, 3, 5, 6, 9, 11, 13 through 16, 18, 21, and 22 of this Act shall
11 become effective July 1, 2026, or when no more than one million dollars in additional
12 recurring state general funds is necessary to implement the provisions of this Act,
13 whichever occurs later."