

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2016 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 4021

BY DELEGATES TRECOST AND WAGNER

[Introduced January 14, 2016;
referred to Committee on Health and Human
Resources then the Judiciary.]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
 2 designated §9-5-24, relating to limiting able-bodied adults without dependents receipt of
 3 SNAP benefits to three months in a thirty-six month period, except in months in which the
 4 recipient is working, or is participating in a work program, at least twenty hours per week;
 5 the Department of Health and Human Resources shall not request a waiver to provide
 6 SNAP benefits to able-bodied adults without dependents.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

1 That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new
 2 section, designated §9-5-24, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 5. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

§9-5-24. Requirements for certain adult recipients of SNAP benefits; DHHR shall not request waiver of work requirements to provide SNAP benefits.

1 (a) All able-bodied adults without dependents, eighteen years of age to fifty years of age,
 2 who are not disabled, pregnant or responsible for the care of a minor child, may receive
 3 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP") benefits for only three months in each
 4 thirty-six month period. Recipients are exempt from the time limit if they are employed, or are
 5 participating and complying with the requirements of a work program, for at least 20 hours per
 6 week.

7 (b) Beginning July 1, 2016, the Department of Health and Human Resources shall not
 8 request a waiver to provide SNAP benefits to able bodied adults without dependents who are not
 9 meeting the requirements described in subsection (a).

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to ensure that all able bodied adults without dependents are working, or in a work program, for a minimum of 20 hours per week for continued eligibility for SNAP benefits.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.