

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2018 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 431

BY SENATORS TAKUBO, TRUMP, KARNES, RUCKER

AZINGER, MARONEY, CLINE, FERNS, AND BOSO

[Introduced January 31, 2018; Referred
to the Committee on Health and Human Resources;
and then to the Committee on the Judiciary]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
 2 designated §9-3-7, relating to requiring the Department of Health and Human Resources
 3 to phase in a statewide program implementing work requirements for applicants of the
 4 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); limiting SNAP recipients to three
 5 months of benefits in any 36-month period unless the recipient is working or participating
 6 in a work, educational, or volunteer program for at least 20 hours a week; and requiring
 7 discontinuance of a federal waiver.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 3. APPLICATION FOR AND GRANTING OF ASSISTANCE.

§9-3-7. Work requirements for certain adult recipients of SNAP benefits.

1 (a) All able-bodied adults without dependents, 18 years of age to 50 years of age, who are
 2 not disabled, pregnant, or responsible for the care of a minor child, may receive Supplemental
 3 Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP") benefits for only three months in each 36 month period.
 4 Recipients are exempt from the time limit if they are employed or are participating and complying
 5 with the requirements of a work, education, or volunteer program for at least 20 hours per week.
 6 (b) Beginning October 1, 2018, the department shall begin the process of discontinuing,
 7 on a county-by-county basis, to seek any Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents federal waivers
 8 granted pursuant to 7 U.S.C. § 2015(o), with all counties to be ineligible for any such waiver
 9 effective October 1, 2021. These waivers exempt able-bodied adults with no children from work
 10 requirements for receipt of SNAP benefits.

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.