

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 665 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY BULLOCK, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, HILL-EVANS, SANCHEZ, GIRAL, HANBIDGE, RABB, MADDEN, DELLOSO, PROBST, BURGOS, KINKEAD, PARKER, WAXMAN, INNAMORATO, OTTEN, KHAN, HOWARD, KRAJEWSKI, GREEN, JOZWIAK, CURRY, FLEMING AND KIM, MARCH 23, 2023

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, JUNE 7, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of July 10, 1986 (P.L.1396, No.121), entitled
2 "An act authorizing the use of State funds to expand a
3 special supplemental food program for women, infants and
4 children," further providing for program operation; and <--
5 making an appropriation.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Section 5(a) of the act of July 10, 1986
9 (P.L.1396, No.121), known as the Women's, Infants' and

10 Children's Nutrition Improvement Act, is amended AND THE SECTION <--
11 IS AMENDED BY ADDING A SUBSECTION to read:

12 Section 5. Program operation.

13 (a) Eligibility of participants.--Participants in the WIC
14 Program enrolled through the use of [funds] money available
15 under the State supplement shall be subject to the same
16 eligibility criteria prescribed by the Federal Government for
17 the existing WIC Program. For purposes of WIC Program

1 eligibility, an applicant shall have the option to  
2 electronically submit documentation to a local WIC Program  
3 agency prior to the applicant's eligibility appointment in a  
4 manner prescribed by the department and described in a  
5 promulgated regulation.

6 \* \* \*

7 (C) SECURITY MEASURES.--THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH <--  
8 SECURITY MEASURES TO PROTECT THE PERSONAL INFORMATION OF  
9 PARTICIPANTS IN THE WIC PROGRAM AND PREVENT FRAUDULENT ACTIVITY  
10 IN THE USE OF WIC BENEFITS.

11 ~~Section 2. The sum of \$12,000,000 is appropriated to the~~ <--  
12 ~~Department of Health for the purposes of technological~~  
13 ~~improvements or enhancements for program operations of the food~~  
14 ~~program for women, infants and children, including efficacy and~~  
15 ~~efficiency and incorporating the use of technology and~~  
16 ~~modernization tools that remove barriers for persons eligible~~  
17 ~~for WIC and creating the potential to allow participants to load~~  
18 ~~benefits remotely and purchase WIC benefits online.~~

19 Section 3 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days. <--