

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 395 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY PHILLIPS-HILL, STEFANO, J. WARD AND HUTCHINSON,  
FEBRUARY 21, 2023

REFERRED TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, FEBRUARY 21, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), entitled "An  
2 act to consolidate, editorially revise, and codify the public  
3 welfare laws of the Commonwealth," in general powers and  
4 duties of the Department of Public Welfare, providing for  
5 child support requirements for the Supplemental Nutrition  
6 Assistance Program.

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

9 Section 1. The act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known  
10 as the Human Services Code, is amended by adding a section to  
11 read:

12 Section 217. Child Support Requirements for the Supplemental  
13 Nutrition Assistance Program.--(a) The department shall elect  
14 the option under 7 CFR 273.11(o) (relating to action on  
15 households with special circumstances) to require an individual  
16 living with and exercising parental control over a child under  
17 eighteen years of age who has an absent parent to cooperate with  
18 the department's division of child support services in  
19 establishing paternity of the child and in establishing,  
20 modifying or enforcing a support order with respect to the child

1 in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 654(29) (relating to State plan  
2 for child and spousal support), in order to be eligible to  
3 participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

4 (b) The department shall elect the option under 7 CFR  
5 273.11(p) to require a putative or identified parent of a child  
6 under eighteen years of age to cooperate with the department's  
7 division of child support services in establishing the paternity  
8 of the child and in providing support for the child in order to  
9 be eligible to participate in the food stamp program.

10 (c) The inability of the putative or identified parent to  
11 comply with the requirement under this section, as determined by  
12 the department's division of child support services or an  
13 appropriate court of law, shall preclude a determination of  
14 ineligibility to participate in the Supplemental Nutrition  
15 Assistance Program.

16 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.