

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2018 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **House Bill 4391**

BY DELEGATES ELLINGTON, FOSTER, HOUSEHOLDER,  
MCGEEHAN, ROHRBACH, SOBONYA, SUMMERS, AND  
SYPOLT

[Introduced February 1, 2018; Referred  
to the 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 §9-3-7, relating to requiring the Department of Health and Human Resources to phase in  
 3 a statewide program to implement work requirements for applicants for the Supplemental  
 4 Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); to limit SNAP recipients to three months of benefits  
 5 in any 36-month period unless the recipient is working or participating in a work,  
 6 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.