

DIGEST OF LAWS OF 2002  
RELATING TO PROGRAMS OF THE OFFICE  
OF TEMPORARY AND DISABILITY ASSISTANCE

NOTICE

The purpose of this Digest is to highlight provisions of the Laws of 2002 and to direct interested persons to the appropriate provisions of the law. This Digest is neither designed nor intended to be used as a substitute for the law itself nor is it intended to be considered as the Office's interpretation of these laws for the purposes of implementation.

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY ASSISTANCE  
OFFICE OF TEMPORARY AND DISABILITY ASSISTANCE  
40 NORTH PEARL STREET  
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12243

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TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE

Chapter 109 - Standard of Monthly Need, Personal Needs Allowance

[Senate 7388 by Senator Meier, et al.]

Increases the standards of monthly need for determining eligibility and payment of federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and additional State payments to the aged, blind and disabled to reflect SSI benefit increases that may result from any cost-of-living adjustment occurring between January 1, 2002 and June 30, 2002 and makes corresponding changes to personal allowances provided to residents of congregate care facilities.

Statutes involved:

Social Services Law

Section 131-o, subd. 1, paras. (a), (b), (c) and (d), amended  
Section 209, subd. 2, paras. (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g),  
amended  
Section 210, subd. 1, amended

Effective date: December 31, 2002

Chapter 246 – Protection of Earnings

[Senate 7515 by Senator Saland, et al.]

Exempts the full-time employment income of a student who is a dependent child from consideration in determining eligibility for and the amount of public assistance benefits and excludes student income of a dependent child from consideration when applying the requirement that the gross earned and unearned income of a household not exceed the poverty level.

Statutes involved:

Social Services Law

Section 131-a, subd. 8, para. (a), subparas. (i), (iii) and (vi), amended

Effective date: July 30, 2002.

Chapter 333 – Food Stamp Application Form

[Assembly 10216-A by Assemblyman Ortiz, et al.]

Requires the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance to develop a simplified application form for the food stamp only program. The form is to be developed in consultation with food stamp outreach organizations and consideration given as to how the form may be used to reach as many potential applicants as possible, especially those over 60 years of age and those who are employed.

Statutes involved:

Social Services Law

Section 95, subd. 11, added

Effective date: August 6, 2002

Chapter 686 – Utility Services

[Senate 6778-B by Senator Wright, et al.]

Addresses situations in which the utility providing energy distribution services and the utility providing energy as a commodity are not the same entity by establishing procedures for termination of utility service for non-payment, allocating costs and payments in the event of termination and extending the protections of the Home Energy Fair Practices Act to energy consumers who use alternative energy suppliers.

Statutes involved:

Public Service Law

Section 30, amended

Section 31, subd. 6, added

Section 32, subds. 5 and 6, added

Section 35, subd. 1, amended

Section 37, subd. 1, amended

Section 39, subds. 1 and 2, amended

Section 43, subd. 3, added

Section 44, subd. 3, amended

Section 46, amended

Section 49, amended

Section 52, subd. 4, paras. (a) and (b), amended

Section 53, added

Effective date: June 18, 2003

CHILD SUPPORT

Chapter 624 – Medical Support for Children

[Assembly 11197-A by the Committee on Rules, at the request of the  
Office of Court Administration]

Requires that the court in a child support proceeding consider the availability of health insurance benefits and insure that health insurance benefits are provided for the benefit of the child.

Statutes involved:

Family Court Act

Section 413-a, subd. 3, para. (d), amended

Section 416, amended

Section 440, subd. 6, added

Section 458-a, subd. (a), amended

Section 458-b, subd. (a), amended

Section 458-c, subd. (a), amended

Domestic Relations Law

Section 240, subd. 1, amended

Section 240-c, subd. 3, para. (d), amended

Section 244-b, subd. (a), amended

Section 244-c, amended

Section 244-d, subd. (a), amended

Social Services Law

Section 111-b, subd. 12, para. (b), subpara. 1, amended

Section 111-b, subd. 15, para. (b), subpara. 1, amended

Section 111-u, amended

Lien Law

Section 65, amended

Section 211, amended

Effective date: October 2, 2002

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