JAN 1 9 2012

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the supplemental
 nutrition assistance program, formerly known as the food stamp
- 3 program, is a federal and state program to help low-income
- 4 families buy the food they need to stay healthy and be
- 5 productive members of society. In 2010, the federal government
- 6 increased funding to the supplemental nutrition assistance
- 7 program and changed the rules to allow more families to qualify.
- 8 Since unemployment checks caused many to gross more than the one
- 9 hundred thirty per cent threshold, the federal government
- 10 increased the gross income limit to two hundred per cent.
- 11 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the
- 12 department of human services to respond to the United States
- 13 Department of Agriculture's mandate to amend supplemental
- 14 nutrition assistance program income eligibility requirements,
- 15 thereby increasing the number of potential beneficiaries of the
- 16 program.
- 17 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
- 18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$2,000,000 or so much 2012-0388 SB SMA.doc



- 1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 for the
- 2 department of human services to increase staff and the
- 3 department's electronic system's capacity to respond to the
- 4 United States Department of Agriculture's mandate to amend
- 5 supplemental nutrition assistance program eligibility
- 6 requirement from one hundred thirty per cent of the income
- 7 poverty guidelines prescribed by the United States Department of
- 8 Health and Human Services to two hundred per cent of the income
- 9 poverty guidelines.
- 10 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
- 11 human services for the purposes of this Act.
- 12 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2012.

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INTRODUCED BY: Jaly

S.B. NO. 2095

Report Title:

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; Food Stamp Program; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the department of human services to respond to the United States Department of Agriculture's mandate to amend supplemental nutrition assistance program eligibility requirements.

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