

House Bill 69

By: Representatives Thomas of the 65th and Lim of the 98th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 4 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to general provisions for public assistance, so as to provide for a pilot program to
3 provide a supplemental benefit to certain federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
4 recipients; to provide for a short title; to provide for definitions; to provide for qualification
5 guidelines for the supplemental benefit; to provide for how and where the supplemental
6 benefit may be used; to provide for the solicitation of grants of funding; to provide for rules
7 and regulations; to provide for agreements; to provide for a report; to provide for automatic
8 repeal; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

10 **SECTION 1.**

11 Article 1 of Chapter 4 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
12 general provisions for public assistance, is amended by adding a new Code section to read
13 as follows:

14 "49-4-23.

15 (a) This Code section shall be known and may be cited as the 'Georgia Triple Threat SNAP
16 Act.'

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- 17 (b) As used in this Code section, the term:
- 18 (1) 'Cooperative marketing association' shall have the same meaning as the term
19 'association' in paragraph (2) of Code Section 2-10-81.
- 20 (2) 'Farmers' market' shall have the same meaning as provided in paragraph (3) of Code
21 Section 2-10-52.
- 22 (c) Subject to available funding, the department shall conduct a one-year pilot program
23 beginning on January 1, 2024, to provide a monthly supplemental benefit of \$75.00 for a
24 period of three months to federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program recipients
25 who have been diagnosed with high glucose, high cholesterol, and high blood pressure.
- 26 (d) The supplemental benefit shall only be used to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables at
27 farmers' markets and cooperative marketing associations.
- 28 (e) The department is authorized to enter into agreements with local nutrition and patient
29 advocacy organizations in order to create outreach materials for distribution to farmers'
30 markets, cooperative marketing associations, and general and subspecialist medical
31 providers who treat Medicaid recipients and other low-income patients to inform such
32 markets, associations, and providers about the pilot program.
- 33 (f) The department is authorized to establish such rules and regulations as may be
34 necessary to implement the pilot program.
- 35 (g) The department is authorized to solicit and accept grants of funding for use in
36 conducting the pilot program.
- 37 (h) No later than December 31, 2024, the department shall submit a detailed written report
38 on the implementation and effectiveness of the pilot program to the chairpersons of the
39 House Committee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Health and Human Services
40 Committee, the House Committee on Appropriations, and the Senate Appropriations
41 Committee.
- 42 (i) This Code section shall stand repealed on December 31, 2024."

43

SECTION 2.

44 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.