

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 299 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY TOOHL, HELM, DeLUCA, BERNSTINE, McNEILL, PICKETT AND T. DAVIS, JANUARY 30, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, JANUARY 30, 2019

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 fiscal provisions
4 relating to public assistance, providing for distribution of
5 SNAP benefits.

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

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

11 Section 476. Distribution of SNAP Benefits.--The following
12 shall apply:

13 (1) Within six months of the effective date of this section,
14 the department shall develop and implement guidelines that
15 require each county assistance office to distribute benefits
16 under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) on a
17 monthly basis using a uniform twenty-five-day distribution
18 schedule.

19 (2) The department may implement a tiered distribution

1 schedule in order to deter any hardships as a result of the
2 change in the distribution date under this section for an
3 individual receiving the benefits.

4 (3) The guidelines under this section shall utilize a method
5 which is uniform throughout this Commonwealth so that the
6 distribution date for benefits does not change if an individual
7 receiving benefits moves to a different county of residence in
8 this Commonwealth, including using the first letter of the last
9 name of an individual receiving benefits to set the date of
10 distribution.

11 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.