

SENATE BILL NO. 161—SENATORS SCHEIBLE, D. HARRIS, SPEARMAN, CANNIZZARO, SEEVERS GANSERT; DALY, DONATE, DONDERO LOOP, FLORES, GOICOECHEA, HANSEN, KRASNER, NEAL, NGUYEN, OHRENSCHALL, PAZINA AND STONE

FEBRUARY 15, 2023

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Provides for the use of certain federal benefits to purchase menstrual products. (BDR 38-811)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to public assistance; providing for the use of benefits under certain federal programs for persons with low incomes to purchase menstrual products; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing federal law establishes the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, which provides assistance to certain low-income families for the purchase of food. (7 U.S.C. §§ 2011 et seq.) Existing federal law also establishes the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, which provides, through eligible local agencies, nutrition education and supplemental foods to pregnant women, mothers, infants and children less than 5 years of age with low household incomes. (42 U.S.C. § 1786) Existing law requires the Department of Health and Human Services to administer these programs within this State. (NRS 422A.338) This bill requires the Department to authorize recipients of benefits provided under those programs to use such benefits to purchase menstrual products: (1) to the extent authorized by federal law; and (2) to the extent that federal funding is available.



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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 422A of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. To the extent authorized by federal law and to the extent that federal funding is available, the Department shall authorize recipients of benefits provided under Supplemental Nutrition Assistance or the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children established by 42 U.S.C. § 1786 to use such benefits to purchase menstrual products.

2. The Department shall take any action necessary to obtain federal authorization and federal funding to carry out the provisions of subsection 1, including, without limitation, applying for any necessary federal waiver.

3. As used in this section, "menstrual products" includes, without limitation, sanitary napkins, tampons or similar products used in connection with the menstrual cycle.

Sec. 2. 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and approval.

2. Section 1 of this act becomes effective:

(a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of performing any preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

(b) On January 1, 2024, for all other purposes.

