Department of Human Services Division of Family Development Advance Notice New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (NJSNAP) Updated procedures for students in an institution of higher education

To Whom It May Concern:

The New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development intends to amend N.J.A.C. 10:87, which governs the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (NJSNAP), by updating the regulations for students enrolled in an institution of higher education who are seeking to receive SNAP benefits.

The proposed amendments to N.J.A.C. 10:87-3.14 would conform state regulations to make the language consistent with the current Federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) rules and regulations at 7 U.S.C. 2015(e) and 7 C.F.R. 273.5. Specifically, the amendments would codify that New Jersey had opted to allow higher education students the ability to average weekly hours worked over the course of a month in establishing their income eligibility to receive NJ SNAP benefits. Throughout the subchapter, proposed language changes would provide better clarity and consistency with Federal language specifically as to defining students enrolled in an institution of higher education, relating to training programs, and regarding the impact of caring for a dependent child. Additionally, the subchapter required technical changes to correct a citation, as well as update references and cross-references within the state and Federal regulations.

Interested parties may submit informal comments on this advance notice within thirty (30) days of its publication on the Department of Human Services' website. Please submit your informal comments to:

Megan Mazzoni, Administrative Practice Officer Division of Family Development P.O. Box 716 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0716 Or via e-mail to: DFD-Regulations@dhs.nj.gov

You will also have a 60-day opportunity to submit formal comments on any actual proposed amendments subsequent to the publication of such proposal in the <u>New Jersev Register</u>. Such proposal will also be published on the Department of Human Services' website.