Department of Human Services

Division of Family Development

Advance Notice of Rulemaking

Amendment to the definition of "spouse" at N.J.A.C. 10:87-2.2(c)3 (NJ SNAP)

To Whom It May Concern:

The New Jersey Department of Human Services (Department), Division of Family Development (DFD) intends to propose an amendment to the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (NJ SNAP), codified at N.J.A.C. 10:87. These amendments would expand the definition of spouse included within N.J.A.C. 10:87-2.2(c)3. DFD intends to:

- 1. Amend the rules governing the NJ SNAP program to expand the definition of "spouse" at N.J.A.C. 10:87-2.2(c)3 to include individuals of both the same, as well as, opposite genders whether through marriage, a domestic partnership, or a civil union.
- 2. The proposed amendment will make chapter language consistent with the Domestic Partnership Act, P.L. 2003, c. 246, codified at N.J.S.A. 26:8A-1 et seq., approved January 12, 2004, and New Jersey's civil union law, P.L. 2006, c. 103, approved December 21, 2006.

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

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Or via e-mail to: <u>DFD-Regulations@dhs.nj.gov</u>

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