

PROTECT **SNAP** FOR FAMILIES IN **NYS**: Expand the Delay of SNAP Cost Shifts to **ALL** States



Families and local governments need action in the face of an affordability crisis and unprecedented program changes.

NEW YORKERS ARE STRUGGLING TO AFFORD FOOD.

1 in 7 New Yorkers are food insecure.

Grocery costs in New York have **increased by 21%** in the last five years.

Food banks and pantries across the state report a **70% increase in need** compared to pre-pandemic levels. Last year, New York's food banks distributed nearly **89 million pounds of food** through TEFAP.

SNAP HELPS FAMILIES AND THE ECONOMY.

2.8M New Yorkers rely on SNAP to afford groceries.

- 31% are seniors or people with disabilities
- 30% are children

SNAP is a vital revenue source for grocers and farmers markets in NY, generating an estimated **\$11.5B in economic growth each year.**

H.R.1 SHIFTS SNAP COSTS TO STATE AND COUNTY BUDGETS, THREATENING FOOD ACCESS.

Starting in October 2026, federal funding for SNAP administration will be cut in half, shifting new costs to states and counties as they are implementing complex federal policy changes.

Counties in NY will need to cover an estimated \$168M in additional SNAP costs, and the state will need to cover an added \$36M.

On top of that, as soon as October 2027, states must cover up to 15% of SNAP benefit costs—an estimated \$1.2B annually for New York—making it harder for state budgets to respond to other vital constituent needs. The amount is based on the state's SNAP payment error rate.

Payment error rates are not a measure of fraud. They measure accuracy in determining a household's benefit. Underpayments, typos, and honest mistakes can all count as payment errors.

States with very high error rates will get a two-year delay to prepare. New York has made progress in lowering its error rate, and as a result, is unlikely to qualify for a delay.

Our state should not be penalized for its success.

CONGRESS MUST EXPAND THE DELAY OF SNAP COST SHIFTS TO ALL STATES.

Expanding the two-year delay will level the playing field, allowing all states and counties to prepare for the cost shifts, reduce error rates, and protect food access for constituents.