

What the 'One Big Beautiful Bill' Really Means for Kansas: More Hunger, Less Stability

Executive Summary

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program is a critical support for Kansas families, helping low-income households afford food while strengthening local economies. In 2024, nearly 187,000 Kansans, including more than 90,000 children, relied on SNAP to meet basic nutrition needs. The program primarily serves families with children, seniors, people with disabilities, and working households with very low incomes. SNAP not only reduces hunger and poverty, but also supports grocery stores, farmers, and food system workers across the state.

Recent federal changes enacted under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (HR 1) significantly weaken SNAP and will have far-reaching consequences for Kansas. These changes reduce benefit levels, tighten eligibility rules, expand work requirements, eliminate nutrition education funding, and shift new administrative and benefit costs onto states. As a result, an estimated 92,000 Kansans are expected to lose some or all of their SNAP benefits, with many families experiencing meaningful monthly reductions that make it harder to afford groceries.

HR 1 also creates serious fiscal challenges for Kansas. Beginning in fiscal year 2027, the state will be required to pay a much larger share of SNAP administrative costs. Starting in fiscal year 2028, Kansas may also be forced to cover a portion of direct food benefits if administrative error rates remain elevated. Together, these changes could increase the state's SNAP costs to approximately \$85 million annually, much of it new spending, at a time when Kansas is already facing projected budget shortfalls.

The economic ripple effects will be felt statewide. Reduced SNAP benefits mean fewer dollars spent at local grocery stores and markets, resulting in lost sales, job losses, and reduced economic activity. Families pushed off SNAP will face increased food insecurity, and children who lose SNAP may also lose access to other nutrition programs, further compounding harm.

SNAP has long been one of the most effective tools Kansas has to reduce hunger, support working families, and stabilize the economy during uncertain times. The changes under HR 1 undermine these benefits while shifting costs and risks to the state. Proactive steps—such as improving program administration, educating policymakers, and protecting vulnerable households—will be essential to minimize harm and preserve SNAP's role as a cornerstone of food security in Kansas.

What is SNAP?

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, better known as SNAP, is the most important anti-hunger program in the United States. In 2024, an average of 41 million low-income Americans per month purchased groceries with SNAP benefits. The purpose of SNAP is to make nutritious food affordable to working families, low-income adults ages 60 and older, people with disabilities living on fixed incomes, and other low-income households.¹ And it works. SNAP reduces food insecurity by 30%, and extreme food insecurity by 20%.² Moreover, before the COVID-19 pandemic, SNAP lifted 6.6 million people above the poverty line, including 3 million children.³

SNAP is not only a lifeline for families, but also for the economy and public health. For every dollar spent on SNAP, up to two dollars of economic activity is generated, making the program the second greatest stimulus during downturns after unemployment insurance.⁴ Decades of research indicates that the elevated access to healthy food options SNAP enables improves health outcomes and reduces health care costs for millions of the program's beneficiaries.⁵

SNAPshot of SNAP Spending, Eligibility & Beneficiaries

Federal Spending on SNAP

In fiscal year 2024, the federal budget appropriated \$6.8 trillion, of which \$142.2 billion was spent on SNAP.⁶ This equates to a mere 2.1% of all federal spending that year. The average monthly benefit was \$187.20 per recipient per month, or \$6.24 per day.

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP) also reports that 94% of SNAP spending went directly to beneficiaries for food purchases, 6% reimbursed states for administrative costs, and less than 1% supported federal administrative costs.⁷

Federal SNAP Eligibility Criteria

The gross monthly income of a SNAP eligible household cannot exceed 130% of the federal poverty level, unless a member of the household is age 60 or older or has a disability.

¹ Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. (2024, November 25). *The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)*. CBPP. <https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/the-supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap>

² Ratcliffe, C., McKernan, S. M., & Zhang, S. (2011). How Much Does the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Reduce Food Insecurity?. *American journal of agricultural economics*, 93(4), 1082–1098. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ajae/aar026>

³ Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. (2024, November 25). *The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)*. CBPP. <https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/the-supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap> and Canning, P., & Stacy, B. (2019, July). The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Economy: New Estimates of the SNAP Multiplier. Washington, D.C.; United States Department of Agriculture.

⁴ Canning, P., & Stacy, B. (2019, July). The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Economy: New Estimates of the SNAP Multiplier. Washington, D.C.; United States Department of Agriculture.

⁵ Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. (2024, November 25). *The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)*. CBPP. <https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/the-supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap>

⁶ Congressional Budget Office. (2025, March 20). *The Federal Budget in Fiscal Year 2024: An Infographic*. CBO. <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/61181>; Jones, J. (2025b, July 25). *Total spending on USDA's food and nutrition assistance programs continued to fall in fiscal year 2024*. Economic Research Service. <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/chart-gallery/chart-detail?chartId=58388>

⁷ Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. (2024, November 25). *The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)*. CBPP. <https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/the-supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap>

- For a family of three in 2025, the maximum gross monthly income is \$2,798 (\$33,576 annually).
- Additionally, households without a senior or disabled member can have a total asset value of no more than \$3,000.
- For households with an older adult or disabled member, the total asset value limit is \$4,500.

Who uses SNAP

A majority of households on SNAP are families with children and over one-third include older and/or disabled adults. Nearly 90% of beneficiaries earn less than the federal poverty level, which means the program successfully reaches the most economically vulnerable.

Household Characteristics of SNAP participants include:

- 62% are families with children
- 37% have older or disabled adults
- 89% earn below the federal poverty level
- 54% earn below half of the federal poverty level⁸
- Social Security is the most common source of income.⁹

Unfortunately, racial disparities also persist in food accessibility, as various racial groups are statistically overrepresented relative to their percentage of the overall population.

Racial Disparities in SNAP		
Race/Ethnicity	% of US Population ¹⁰	% of SNAP Beneficiaries ¹¹
White	57.5%	42%
Black	13.7%	25%
Latino	20.0%	23%
Asian	6.7%	4%
Multiracial	3.1%	6%

⁸ Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. (2024, November 25). *The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)*. CBPP. <https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/the-supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap>

⁹ Monkovic, M. (2024, June). *Characteristics of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Households: Fiscal Year 2022*. Washington, D.C.; United States Department of Agriculture.

¹⁰ United States Census Bureau. (2024). *QuickFacts: United States*. Census.gov. <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/US/PST045224>

¹¹ Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. (2024, November 25). *The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)*. CBPP. <https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/the-supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap>

Changes to SNAP Under the One Big Beautiful Bill (HR 1)

The One Big Beautiful Bill Act, herein referred to as HR 1, enacted many sweeping changes to SNAP spending, eligibility, and sub-programs. These changes will be phased in from 2025 through 2028.

The Thrifty Food Plan

The Thrifty Food Plan (TFP), established in 1975, is the lowest cost of four food plans the US Department of Agriculture created. It is designed to suggest diets that meet nutritional needs at minimal expense. After decades of advocacy, the 2018 Farm Bill tailored the growth rate of the TFP supplemental benefit to current dietary guidelines, food consumption data, and food prices. The effects of this change narrowed the gap between what SNAP benefits could afford and actual food costs, raising SNAP benefits by 21% (\$1.19 per person per day) in 2021.¹²

HR 1 reverses this change and caps the annual increase in the TFP solely to the rate of growth in the consumer price index. By 2034, the effect of this reversal is expected to lower the average monthly benefit from \$227 under current projections to \$213.

Effective Date: October 1, 2027

Work Requirements

Prior to HR 1, able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWD) ages 18-54 were required to work or attend a training program for at least 80 hours per month to receive SNAP benefits for more than 3 months in a 36-month period. Under HR 1, all ABAWDs ages 18-64 and adults in the same age range with children ages 14 and up are also required to fulfill the same work requirement. HR 1 also rescinded previous exceptions for veterans, people experiencing homelessness, and people ages 18-24 who were in foster care at the age of 18.

States were previously able to request work requirement waivers for counties and municipalities with unemployment rates of at least 10% or in areas where an insufficient number of jobs are available. HR 1 no longer permits this practice. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that these changes to work requirements will reduce SNAP participation by 2.4 million.¹³ Below is a detailed breakdown of who will lose benefits:

- 800,000 ABAWD ages 18-64
- 300,000 able-bodied adults with children age 14 and up
- 1 million ABAWD ages 18-54 who would have received a waiver pre-HR 1
- 300,000 veterans, people experiencing homelessness, and adults 18-24 years old who aged out of foster care

Effective Date: November 1, 2025

¹² United States Department of Agriculture. (2021, August). Thrifty Food Plan 2021. Washington, D.C.; Food Research & Action Center. (2025, October). Impact of H.R. 1 on Thrifty Food Plan. Washington, D.C.

¹³ Congressional Budget Office. (2025, August 11). Estimated Effects of Public Law 119-21 on Participation and Benefits Under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. Washington, D.C.

Utility Assistance

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally funded program that provides financial assistance to families struggling to afford their utility bills. Recipients of LIHEAP assistance, who are also SNAP beneficiaries, could disclose this status to SNAP administrators and automatically qualify for additional food assistance.¹⁴ HR 1 eliminates this automatic qualification for LIHEAP households without an elderly or disabled member, reducing monthly SNAP benefits by roughly \$100 for approximately 3% of all SNAP participants.

Effective Date: November 1, 2025

Internet Expense Deduction

Households applying for SNAP can deduct certain living expenses from their gross monthly income to reduce their earnings and, thereby, increase the value of their SNAP benefits. Among those deductible expenses is the cost of internet service. Under the provisions of HR 1, this expense is no longer deductible. An estimated 65% of SNAP households will see their monthly benefit decrease by \$10.¹⁵

Effective Date: July 4, 2025

SNAP-Ed

SNAP-Ed is an educational, evidence-based nutrition program intended to help SNAP participants stretch their benefits and live healthy lives. The program taught people how to make healthy food choices, budget wisely, cook nutritious meals, and adopt physically active lifestyles. HR 1 completely defunded SNAP-Ed, eliminating 30 full-time positions that were dedicated to evidenced-based nutrition and healthy eating for SNAP recipients.

Effective Date: September 30, 2025¹⁶

Noncitizen Eligibility

The following table depicts which noncitizen populations in the United States will remain eligible for SNAP, and which ones will lose eligibility. In total, HR 1 strips SNAP benefits from 90,000 lawfully present noncitizens.

Effective Date: July 4, 2025¹⁷

¹⁴ The Administration for Children and Families. (2025, May 7). *Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)*. Office of Community Services. <https://acf.gov/ocs/programs/liheap>; Plata-Nino, G., & Foti, J. (2025, October 31). *SNAP Cuts in OBBBA/H.R. 1: Billionaires Win, Working Families Lose*. FRAC. <https://frac.org/blog/snap-cuts-in-obbbba-h-r-1-billionaires-win-working-families-lose>

¹⁵ Congressional Budget Office. (2025, August 11). *Estimated Effects of Public Law 119-21 on Participation and Benefits Under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program*. Washington, D.C.

¹⁶ Plata-Nino, G., & Foti, J. (2025, October 31). *SNAP Cuts in OBBBA/H.R. 1: Billionaires Win, Working Families Lose*. FRAC. <https://frac.org/blog/snap-cuts-in-obbbba-h-r-1-billionaires-win-working-families-lose>

¹⁷ Ward, R. (2025). *Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Implementation of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act of 2025 – Alien SNAP Eligibility*. Food and Nutrition Service. [https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/obbb-alien-eligibility#:~:text=Prior%20to%20the%20OBBA%2C%20certain,\(f\)%20of%20the%20FNA](https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/obbb-alien-eligibility#:~:text=Prior%20to%20the%20OBBA%2C%20certain,(f)%20of%20the%20FNA)

Maintain SNAP Eligibility	Lose SNAP Eligibility
Lawful Permanent Residents (Green Card Holders)	Refugees, asylees, and individuals granted withholding of removal/deportation
Cuban and Haitian Entrants	Survivors of Domestic Violence who are self-petitioners under the Violence Against Women Act
Compact of Free Association Admittees ¹⁸	Survivors (and family members) of trafficking
	Certain American Indians born abroad
	Hmong and Highland Laotian tribal members
	Iraqi and Afghan Special Immigrants (assisted US military in the Middle East)
	Conditional entrants
	Parolees granted more than a year of parole
	Certain Afghan and Ukrainian parolees
	Lawful Permanent Residents under Immigration and Nationality Act § 249 ¹⁹

Changes to SNAP Spending & Cost-Sharing with States

Total Cuts to SNAP Spending

HR 1 will drastically cut funds for SNAP while shifting the burden of funding the program to state budgets. Most of the changes to SNAP HR 1 enacts, such as work requirements and the cost-share restructuring, are permanent with a few exceptions that will sunset in 2034. Between now and 2034, the cumulative total loss to SNAP spending will be \$279 billion. Prior to HR 1, annual SNAP spending was forecasted to rise from \$110 billion in 2025 to \$116 billion by 2034. New projections show that spending will instead drop to \$77 billion by 2034. States are expected to spend an additional \$17 billion on SNAP by 2034, due to these drastic cuts and the financial impact of adjustments HR 1 makes to the cost-sharing arrangements with states.²⁰

Cost-Sharing with States

Since the inception of the SNAP program in 1964 (then called food stamps), the federal government has covered 100% of the costs that went directly toward SNAP benefits, the money

¹⁸ Congressional Budget Office. (2025, August 11). Estimated Effects of Public Law 119-21 on Participation and Benefits Under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. Washington, D.C.

¹⁹ D'Avanzo, B., & Krieger, S. (2025, November 12). *Clarifying Access: What New Federal SNAP Restrictions and Guidance Mean for Immigrant Communities*. National Immigration Law Center.

²⁰ Congressional Budget Office. (2025, June). Dynamic Analysis of Changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in H.R. 1. Washington, D.C.

households receive to purchase food. Administrative costs associated with SNAP were evenly split between each state and the federal government.

Starting in federal fiscal year 2027 (beginning October 1, 2026), states must cover 75% of SNAP's administrative expenses. Additionally, for the first time in the history of SNAP, states will be forced to pay a portion of direct benefits unless their error rates are low enough. An error rate is the measure of how accurately states determine eligibility and issue benefits, including under- and overpayments. The table below explains the proportion of SNAP benefits states will pay depending on their respective error rate.

Error Rate	Less than 6%	6-7.99%	8-9.99%	10% or More
State Share of Benefits	0%	5%	10%	15%

Direct benefit spending will decline by \$41 billion from 2028-2034, with most of that reduction (\$35 billion) stemming from the federal government shifting costs onto states. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) anticipates that states will reduce or eliminate SNAP benefits for approximately 300,000 people, further reducing direct spending by \$7 billion.

This will have a ripple effect on other programs to help the most vulnerable Kansans. For example, 96,000 children expected to lose SNAP will also lose their automatic eligibility for other child nutrition programs, such as the National School Lunch Program. This cut is equivalent to \$170 million in direct benefit spending. The amplified pressure of SNAP cuts on state budgets will make it fiscally difficult for states to also compensate for the loss of federal reimbursements that funded child nutrition programs.²¹

Impact of SNAP Cuts

Nationwide

The collective consequence of the tax and spending cuts under HR 1 is one of the largest transfers of wealth in American history. Income for the poorest 20% of Americans will shrink by an average of 3.8% while income for the wealthiest 20% will increase 3.7%.²² A CBO analysis finds that 85% of reductions in SNAP spending affect the bottom 30% of income earners. Meanwhile, the SNAP recipients being pushed to join the labor force will increase the collective earnings of all SNAP participants by a mere 0.02% by 2034.²³ Essentially, families on SNAP and the communities they live in are better off economically under pre-HR 1 levels of SNAP spending.

²¹ Congressional Budget Office. (2025, August 11). Estimated Effects of Public Law 119-21 on Participation and Benefits Under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. Washington, D.C.

²² Hacker, J., & Sullivan, P. (2025, June 25). *Congressional Republicans' budget bill is the most regressive in at least 40 years*. Equitable Growth.

<https://equitablegrowth.org/congressional-republicans-budget-bill-is-the-most-regressive-in-at-least-40-years/>

²³ Congressional Budget Office. (2025, June). Dynamic Analysis of Changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in H.R. 1. Washington, D.C.

Over 250,000 retailers are authorized to accept SNAP payments and will also suffer from reduced sales, as seen in the table below.²⁴

Change in SNAP Sales Due to HR 1 ²⁵										
Year	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034
\$ Billions	-7.4	-10.1	-10.1	-10.1	-10.1	-9.8	-9.8	-9.9	-9.9	-8
% Change in SNAP Sales	-6.7	-9.4	-9.2	-9.1	-9.1	-8.8	-8.8	-8.6	-8.6	-6.9

In total, 3.2 million people are going to lose SNAP benefits, largely due to the expanded enforcement of work requirements. That impact will disproportionately harm vulnerable groups.²⁶ A 2020 National Institutes of Health study finds that work requirements are associated with a 4% decrease in SNAP participation among ABAWDs, most notably a 7.2% decrease among Black adults and a 5.5% among Hispanic adults, compared to a 2.6% drop among white adults.²⁷

Kansas Families

The nationwide impact will be replicated for Kansans in equal measure. Nearly 187,000 Kansans participated in SNAP in 2024, spending \$408 million at 2,128 authorized retailers across the state.²⁸ Similarly to what's observed nationwide, those benefits currently go to households that need them the most. Of the nearly 187,000 Kansans receiving SNAP:

- 65% are families with children
- 36% have an older and/or disabled adult
- 44% are working families
- 31% earn between 51-100% of the federal poverty level
- 52% earn less than 50% of the federal poverty level²⁹
- 90,915 of all beneficiaries are children.³⁰

²⁴ U.S. Department of Agriculture. (2024, June). *Retailer*. Food and Nutrition Service. <https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/retailer#:~:text=FNS%20values%20its%20partnership%20with,other%20retailers%20in%20your%20area>

²⁵ Johnson, S. (2025, July 18). *The "One Big Beautiful Bill Act": How Major SNAP Reforms Will Reshape the Independent Grocery Industry*. NGA. <https://www.nationalgrocers.org/news/the-one-big-beautiful-bill-act-how-major-snap-reforms-will-reshape-the-independent-grocery-industry/>

²⁶ Congressional Budget Office. (2025, August 11). *Estimated Effects of Public Law 119-21 on Participation and Benefits Under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program*. Washington, D.C.

²⁷ Brantley, E., Pillai, D., & Ku, L. (2020). Association of Work Requirements With Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Participation by Race/Ethnicity and Disability Status, 2013-2017. *JAMA network open*, 3(6), e205824. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2020.5824>

²⁸ Nchako, C. (2025, January 21). *A Closer Look at Who Benefits from SNAP: State-by-State Fact Sheets*. Food Assistance. <https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/a-closer-look-at-who-benefits-from-snap-state-by-state-fact-sheets#Kansas>; Uridge, E., & Moore, S. (2025, April 14). *Tracking Federal SNAP Policy: Potential Impacts on Food Access for Kansans*. KHI.

<https://www.khi.org/articles/tracking-federal-snap-policy-potential-impacts-on-food-access-for-kansans/>

²⁹ Nchako, C. (2025, January 21). *A Closer Look at Who Benefits from SNAP: State-by-State Fact Sheets*. Food Assistance. <https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/a-closer-look-at-who-benefits-from-snap-state-by-state-fact-sheets#Kansas>

³⁰ The Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2025, October). *Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) enrollment: Kids Count Data Center*. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Enrollment | KIDS COUNT Data Center.

[Click here](#) to view how many Kansas households in each county, state house district, and state senate district participated in SNAP in 2024.

SNAP is a stopgap for 6% of all Kansans, and has worked to help working families in the state make ends meet. The average monthly benefit for a Kansan receiving SNAP is currently \$182 per person (\$5.98 per day). From 2015-2019, SNAP lifted 45,000 Kansans out of poverty, including 24,000 children.

HR 1 is going to slash many of the benefits of SNAP in Kansas, harming more than just the recipients. When SNAP benefits are spent in the economy, they support all workers involved in producing, distributing, marketing, and selling food. An estimated 700 of these same workers will lose their jobs due to the forthcoming SNAP cuts.³¹

Moreover, 92,000 Kansans are losing some or all of their SNAP benefits, creating direct and immediate harm. More specifically, the following household types will see at least \$25 disappear from their monthly SNAP benefit:

- 20,000 of all Kansas families (Average loss: \$72)
- 18,000 of Kansas households with children (Average loss: \$52)
- 15,000 of working Kansas families (Average loss: \$57)³²

Kansas State Budget & Economy

The Kansas state budget and economy will feel the impact of shifts in SNAP funding. In fiscal year 2024, SNAP benefits totaled \$408 million in Kansas, the state paid \$29 million in administrative costs, and had an error rate of 9.98%.³³ Beginning October 1, 2026 (fiscal year 2027), states must cover 75%, as opposed to 50%, of administrative costs. Starting in fiscal year 2028, assuming the aforementioned error rate holds, the state will be mandated to cover 10% of the cost of direct benefits. That means in the state budget, the administrative cost will rise to \$44 million, and the state will pay \$41 million toward direct benefits, bringing the state's total SNAP cost to \$85 million. Of that total, \$55 million is new spending.³⁴

The state can decrease or eliminate the amount it may pay toward direct benefits if it lowers its error rate. The table below explains this cost-saving opportunity.

<https://datacenter.aecf.org/data/tables/7896-supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap-enrollment?loc=18&loct=2#detailed/2/any/false/2545,1095,2048,574,1729,37,871,870,573,869/any/15225>

³¹ Ku, L., Kwon, K., Nketiah, L., Gorak, T., Kripa, M., & Cordes, J. (2025, March). Potential 2026 Job Loss in States Due to Broad-Based Cuts to Medicaid and SNAP Federal Funding Under the House Budget Resolution. New York City; Commonwealth Fund.

³² Wheaton, L., Giannarelli, L., & Minton, S. (2025, July). How the Senate Budget Reconciliation SNAP Proposals Will Affect Families in Every US State: A Summary of Preliminary Research Findings. Washington, D.C.; Urban Institute.

³³ National Grocers Association. (2025). National Grocers Association Estimated Impact of BBB SNAP Changes on State Budgets. Washington, D.C.

³⁴ National Grocers Association. (2025). National Grocers Association Estimated Impact of BBB SNAP Changes on State Budgets. Washington, D.C.; Villa, M., & Scott, S. (2025, September 29). *SNAP Changes Will Upend State Budgets*. Center on Poverty and Inequality.

<https://www.georgetownpoverty.org/issues/snap-changes-will-upend-state-budgets/>

State Share of 5% cost-shift (6-7.99% error rate)	State Share of 10% cost-shift (8-9.99% error rate)	State Share of 15% cost-shift (10%+ error rate)
\$20 million	\$41 million	\$61 million ³⁵

Notes: The values are based on the FY 2024 error rate. The federal government will pay 100% of the cost of direct benefits for states with error rates of less than 6%.

Kansas is not in a position to weather additional strains on the state budget. Due to recent income and property tax cuts in Kansas, the state is expected to be in the red by fiscal year 2028.³⁶ This impending financial cliff may make it difficult for the state to afford its mandated portion of SNAP, and HR 1 only exacerbates this problem. A 2025 Commonwealth Fund study projects that Kansas will experience several losses in 2026, including \$96.4 million in federal SNAP funding, \$122.2 million in economic activity, \$73.1 million in the state's gross domestic product, and \$7.9 million in tax revenue.³⁷

Policy Recommendations

The Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) recommends that advocates and states take the following 12 steps to mitigate the harm of SNAP cuts under HR 1:

1. Work with State Agencies to Push USDA for Clear Guidance: Work with state agencies to urge USDA to issue clearer implementation guidance, including key dates and quality-control measures.
2. Map the Impact of Cuts: Document and publicize how HR 1 reduced benefits so decision-makers and the public understand the real effects.
3. Track Waiver Expirations: Identify when current waivers end, and educate affected families to avoid surprises when exemptions expire.
4. Protect People from Time Limits: Identify populations at risk of losing benefits due to expanded time limits and work with agencies and community partners to simplify exemptions and documentation.
5. Educate Local Leaders and Employers: Brief local officials and business groups about the expected fallout and enlist their support for advocacy.
6. Support Humanitarian Immigrants: Partner with immigrant-serving organizations to help families understand changing eligibility and navigate legal options, with information in multiple languages.

³⁵ *H.R. 1 and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP): What Counties Should Know*. National Association of Counties. (2025, October 31). <https://www.naco.org/resource/hr-1-and-supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap-what-counties-should-know#:~:text=119%2D21%29%20Analysis,not%20be%20responsible%20for%20benefits>

³⁶ Smith, S. (2025, March 27). *Kansas Legislature passes spending plan that would put state \$460M in the hole within three years*. Kansas Reflector. <https://kansasreflector.com/2025/03/27/kansas-legislature-passes-spending-plan-that-would-put-state-460m-in-the-hole-within-three-years/>

³⁷ Ku, L., Kwon, K., Nketiah, L., Gorak, T., Kripa, M., & Cordes, J. (2025, March). Potential 2026 Job Loss in States Due to Broad-Based Cuts to Medicaid and SNAP Federal Funding Under the House Budget Resolution. New York City; Commonwealth Fund.

7. Engage State Legislators and Budget Officers: Educate lawmakers and budget officials about the human and fiscal impacts, with data showing SNAP's importance, and encourage them to fund and defend the program.
8. Collaborate with Retailers and Farmers: Work with grocery stores, farmers' markets, and producers to document economic harm from cuts and elevate their voices in policy discussions.
9. Coordinate with Health Advocates: Align with health, disability, and mental health advocates to share data, track harm, and strengthen joint calls to restore benefits.
10. Secure Administrative Resources: Press for adequate staffing, technology, and training in state SNAP offices to avoid wrongful denials and delays as states assume larger cost burdens.
11. Document and Share Harm, and Sound the Alarm: Capture real-world impacts through stories, press briefings, op-eds, and other tools to raise public awareness.
12. Connect the Dots to Child Nutrition Programs: Highlight how cuts weaken WIC, school meals, and other child nutrition programs, and push for state flexibilities and stronger school meal participation.³⁸

Conclusion

The changes to SNAP enacted under HR 1 arrive at a moment when food affordability is already a major concern for families. Nationally, 53% of American households report being stressed about the cost of food, underscoring how sensitive family budgets are to even small reductions in assistance.³⁹ SNAP has long served as a stabilizing force during times of economic pressure—reducing hunger, supporting work, and strengthening local economies. Rolling back benefit adequacy, expanding punitive work requirements, and shifting costs to states weakens one of the nation's most effective tools for addressing food insecurity, while delivering minimal economic gains in return.

In Kansas, the stakes are especially high. An estimated 410,760 Kansans (1 in 7 residents) are food insecure, and SNAP plays a critical role in helping families bridge the gap between limited incomes and rising food costs.⁴⁰ The projected loss of benefits, increased administrative burdens, and new state fiscal obligations threaten to deepen hardship for households already struggling to put food on the table. Without targeted mitigation and policy intervention, HR 1 risks increasing hunger, straining the state budget, and undermining the economic and public health benefits SNAP has reliably delivered to Kansas communities for decades.

³⁸ Plata-Nino, G. (2025, September 5). *12 Actions Advocates and States Should Take Now to Mitigate Harm of H.R. 1 SNAP Cuts*. FRAC.

<https://frac.org/blog/12-actions-advocates-and-states-should-take-now-to-mitigate-harm-of-h-r-1-snap-cuts>

³⁹ The Associated Press. (2025). The July 2025 AP-NORC Center Poll. New York City.

⁴⁰ Feeding America. (2025, May). *Hunger & Poverty in Kansas: Map the Meal Gap*. Food Insecurity among the Overall Population in Kansas. <https://map.feedingamerica.org/county/2023/overall/kansas>

About Kansas Appleseed

Kansas Appleseed: is a statewide organization that believes Kansans, working together, can build a state full of thriving, inclusive, and just communities. We conduct policy research and analysis and work with communities and partners to understand the root causes of problems and advocate for comprehensive solutions.

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