

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Resolution

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING STATE FUNDING FOR THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- WHEREAS,** the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) serves 13% of households in North Carolina (FRAC, 2025). As of July 2025, there are 1,357,112 SNAP participants in NC and 32,660 in Durham County; and
- WHEREAS,** four in five families participating in SNAP in NC have either a child, a senior, or an adult with a disability (NC DHHS, 2025); and
- WHEREAS,** substantial research has shown that SNAP improves both food security and numerous health outcomes for participants (FRAC, 2017); and
- WHEREAS,** every dollar in SNAP benefits generates \$1.50-\$1.80 for local economies (NC DHHS, 2025), and SNAP is especially helpful to the economy during financial downturns; and
- WHEREAS,** over 9000 retailers – including grocery stores and farmers’ markets - in NC accepted SNAP and redeemed a total of \$3,974,844,947 in SNAP benefits in 2023 (FRAC, 2025); and
- WHEREAS,** SNAP incentive programs at farmers’ markets support agriculture, bringing \$500,000 to over 400 NC farmers each year (NCFMN, 2025); and
- WHEREAS,** research shows that annual healthcare costs for adult SNAP participants are \$1,400 (or 25%) lower than low-income non-participants (CBPP, 2023), and a study of older adults in NC shows that SNAP was associated with annual Medicaid savings of \$2,360 per person (BD Trust, 2021); and
- WHEREAS,** SNAP participation increases access to school meals for NC students through direct certification, and school meals support better health, academic performance, and attendance (SMFANC, 2024); and
- WHEREAS,** H.R.1, or the One Big Beautiful Bill Act of 2025, shifted some SNAP benefit costs to states for the first time in the program’s history; and
- WHEREAS,** the NC Department of Health and Human Services estimates that the cost to North Carolina for this policy change will be \$420 million annually, beginning in FY 2027-2028; and
- WHEREAS,** the SNAP program in North Carolina will be eliminated if the state chooses not to pay the increased cost share; and
- WHEREAS,** while SNAP benefits currently provide nine meals for every one meal provided by local food banks and pantries across the state, local food banks already report an increase in individuals seeking essential food items and a simultaneous decrease in federal funding for their services, and a reduction in SNAP benefits would further strain food bank and pantry resources; and
- WHEREAS,** elimination of SNAP in NC would result in 500,000 children losing automatic qualification for school meals (NCDHHS, 2025); and
- WHEREAS,** the additional elimination of federal SNAP-Ed funding in October will further compound food security and economic impacts for NC residents, as SNAP-Ed returns an estimated \$5.36 in health and economic benefits including educational attainment, lifetime earnings, and life expectancy for every for every \$1 spent (NC SNAP-Ed, 2025); and
- WHEREAS,** losing SNAP in North Carolina would have devastating impacts on children, disabled individuals, older adults, and working families.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we the Durham Board of County Commissioners are in support of state funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and call upon the North Carolina General Assembly to approve the estimated \$420 million annual state budget appropriation required to continue the program beginning in FY 2027-2028.

This the 25th day of August 2025.

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Nida Allam, Chair	Dr. Mike Lee, Vice Chair
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Michelle Burton, Commissioner	Wendy Jacobs, Commissioner
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Stephen Valentine, Commissioner	

