SNAP – IMPACTS OF FEDERAL H.R. 1

BACKGROUND

Federal changes to SNAP, enacted by H.R. 1, aim to reduce federal expenditures, but come with challenges for states and counties.

- ✓ 67,050 Fairfax County residents receive SNAP benefits (as of November 17, 2025).
- ✓ Virginia's administrative costs were approximately $360 million in 2024.
- ✓ Virginia disbursed $1.8 billion in SNAP benefits and had an error rate of 11.5% in 2024.

Administrative Cost Sharing: Beginning October 1, 2026, federal support for SNAP administrative costs will be reduced from 50% to 25%, resulting in an estimated $90 million annual increase that could shift further to local governments.

State Matching Funds: Beginning October 1, 2027, SNAP benefits will no longer be 100% federally funded. States will need to match 0-15% of these costs based on their payment error rate. Virginia's estimated match requirement will be approximately $270 million. State and local efforts are focused on lowering Virginia's error rate to lessen this potential increased cost burden.

Payment Error Rate	State Match (Based on Error Rate)	Approximate Benefit Cost
< 6%	0%	$0
6 - 7.99%	5%	$90m
8 - 9.99%	10%	$180m
≥ 10%	15%	$270m

Expanded Work Requirements: SNAP work requirements were expanded as of November 1, 2025. Individuals no longer exempt include adults aged 54-64, adults with children between the ages of 15-18, veterans, former foster care youth, and individuals experiencing homelessness.

Non-Citizen Eligibility Changes: Refugees, asylees, victims of human trafficking, and other humanitarian-based immigrants are no longer eligible for SNAP. *Fairfax County has a large immigrant population and may see increased demand for local food banks and other food resources.*

FAIRFAX COUNTY'S LEGISLATIVE POSITION



Fairfax County urges the state to work closely with localities in implementing the federal changes to SNAP and avoid shifting costs for program administration and/or benefit payments to localities.

Fairfax County supports the provision of appropriate tools and investment in staff training to enable local staff to administer SNAP effectively and efficiently. Implementation will require significant support from the state and coordination between state agencies and local social services departments.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT LEGISLATIVETEAM@FAIRFAXCOUNTY.GOV

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