

The One Big Beautiful Bill (HR 1) Makes the Largest Cuts to Food Assistance in History. **Here's What It Means for SNAP Enrollees**



Expands SNAP Restrictions to Parents, Older Adults

Under prior law, adults between the ages of 18-55 without dependents in the home were subject to a three month time limit for SNAP eligibility unless they documented 80 hours of work monthly or met an exemption. HR 1 expands this rule to parents with children 14 and older and adults up to 64. It removes automatic protections for veterans and people experiencing homelessness. **This change will put 34,000 West Virginians at risk of losing SNAP and facing hunger.**



Eliminates Narrow SNAP Eligibility for Immigrants

Undocumented immigrants have never been eligible for federal benefits. HR 1 newly bars those with legal humanitarian protections, including refugees, individuals granted asylum, and victims of domestic violence and labor and sex trafficking from receiving SNAP assistance. It is unclear how many West Virginia residents will be impacted but likely few.



Limits Future SNAP Benefits for Most Households

HR 1 lowers food benefits for households by limiting benefit adjustments made when food prices increase, making the program less responsive to the cost of living. It also **limits** household expense deductions from benefit calculations. **Combined, 166,000 West Virginia households will see their monthly food benefits decline by at least \$25.**

Overall, these changes are **expected to reduce federal food funds in West Virginia by at least \$36 million** in the first year. They will go into effect by the beginning of 2026. Each of these changes will force eligible West Virginians to navigate complex new systems and increase hunger.

The One Big Beautiful Bill (HR 1) Makes the Largest Cuts to Food Assistance in History. **Here's What It Means for State Policymakers**



Eliminates SNAP-Ed FY 2026

HR 1 eliminated funding for the nutrition education and obesity prevention grant program, SNAP-Ed, known here as the West Virginia Family Nutrition Program. Its **elimination cuts the \$4.1 million** West Virginia received annually and an estimated **60 jobs** in West Virginia. The West Virginia Family Nutrition Program operated Grow This!, Kids Market, and many other programs that **promoted healthy eating and food access**.



SNAP Admin Costs Shifted to State FY 2027

HR 1 increases the state's share of the cost to administer SNAP to 75%. The administrative budget pays SNAP caseworkers, which is critical for controlling the error rate. This will cost the state budget around **\$10 million more per year**, putting pressure on state lawmakers to cut the SNAP administrative budget or raise funds elsewhere.



SNAP Benefit Costs Shifted to State FY 2028

HR 1 **ended the longstanding commitment of 100% federal funding for SNAP** food assistance benefits, shifting massive food costs onto the state. States will now have to pay a share of SNAP food benefits, determined by the state's SNAP error rate. West Virginia's cost share could range from **5 to 15% of benefits, or \$28 to 84 million annually in new costs** to West Virginia's state budget.

DiStefano, Seth et. al., "Federal Reconciliation Law Will Have Sweeping Impacts on Health Care and Food Security," WVCBP, July 2025.

Khalique, Amina, "The Trump Administration's One Big Beautiful Bill Act Will Drive Up Costs in West Virginia," Center for American Progress, August 2025.

Wheaton, Laura, "How the Senate Budget Reconciliation SNAP Proposals Will Affect Families in Every US State," Urban Institute, July 2025.

WVCBP analysis of coverage losses.