



July 3, 2025

Statement

Northern Illinois Food Bank responds to House passage of bill cutting SNAP

Today, the House of Representatives passed the “Big Beautiful Bill Act,” which cuts nearly \$200 billion from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). These cuts implemented through increased work requirements, cost-shifting to states, and limits on benefit adjustments, will significantly reduce access to food assistance and increase demand on charitable food systems already stretched thin. For Illinois alone, the cost burden could exceed \$1.2 billion annually.

Northern Illinois Food Bank is disappointed by this development. History shows that when SNAP benefits are reduced, demand at our Food Bank can soar by as many as 60,000 to 80,000 additional neighbors each month seeking food assistance. Vulnerable groups like children, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities will be hit hardest, and around 6 billion meals will be lost nationwide each year. Compounding the issue, our Food Bank expects a 40% drop in federal food and funding, creating a \$3–\$4 million gap.

In response, Northern Illinois Food Bank launched a [Community Response Fund](#) to help offset lost resources and ensure we can continue to provide nutritious food to neighbors in need. While we work to meet immediate needs, we remain focused on long-term advocacy to address the root causes of hunger and ensure all Northern Illinois neighbors have access to the food they need to thrive.