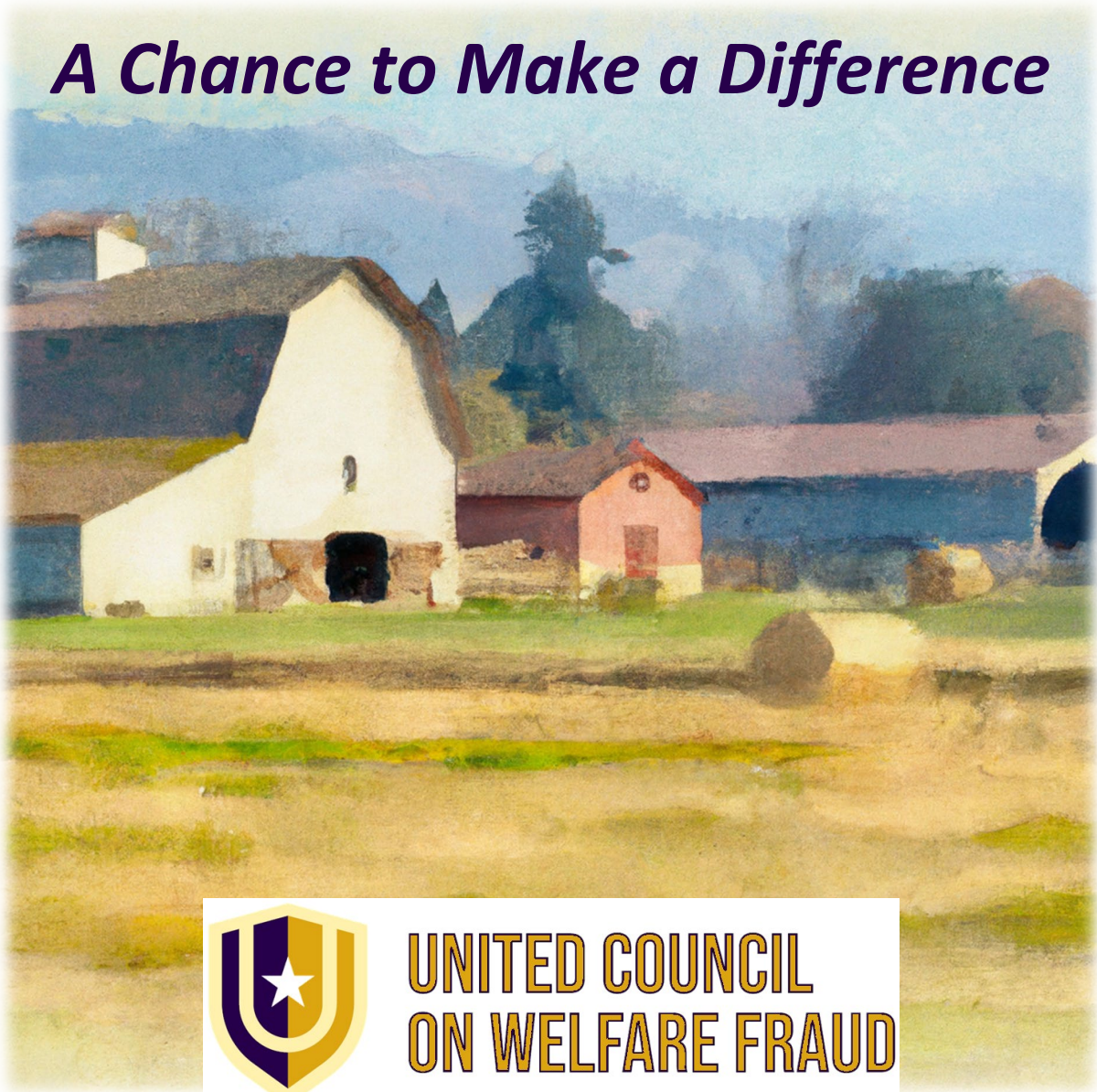


The 2023 Farm Bill



A Chance to Make a Difference



**UNITED COUNCIL
ON WELFARE FRAUD**



Greetings, diligent and devoted investigators of welfare fraud, esteemed program directors, astute analysts, and adept claims recovery specialists. With great pleasure, we welcome you to the grand unveiling of the United Council on Welfare Fraud (UCOWF) 50th Conference handout—a treasure trove of insights delving into the intricate threads of federal legislation poised to wield a substantial and far-reaching influence upon this year's Farm Bill.

Immerse yourselves in an enlightening experience, for the UCOWF stands not as a lobbying entity, but as a beacon of knowledge and education. Our purpose in sharing this information is to arm you, our esteemed members, with a panoramic view of the legislative landscape. We are unburdened by party affiliations, untouched by political sway, and free from bias. Our commitment is simply to equip you with the tools to navigate the labyrinthine corridors of the Farm Bill with sagacity and confidence.

Unified as the guardians and stewards of the public assistance programs, we proudly present this brochure as your compass, guiding you through the profound shifts and changes within the legislative tapestry. As you turn these pages, you'll unveil a rich mosaic of alterations, amendments, and regulations. These are the very building blocks that Congress will deftly arrange to sculpt the contours of this year's Farm Bill.

Behold provisions that fortify the safety net, extending its protective embrace over vulnerable individuals and families. Observe measures meticulously crafted to stem the tide of fraudulent activities that threaten the very bedrock of our welfare systems. Within these eloquent words, penned by the hands of subject matter experts within UCOWF, you'll find a roadmap through the ever-evolving legal framework—a framework shaped by the voices of integrity and reason.

Prepare to embark on a journey where your expertise meets the unfolding legislative tapestry head-on. As kindred spirits, let us unite in purpose and embark upon this odyssey of enlightenment. Together, we shall unfurl the layers of legislation that define and shape this year's Farm Bill, uncovering the core of its essence with unwavering determination.

Humbly and respectfully submitted,

UCOWF Intergovernmental Committee

PS – We are on a perpetual quest for committed Subject Matter Experts (SMEs), policy aficionados, masters of legislation, whisperers of regulations, and sorcerers of congressional insight to become valued members of the Intergovernmental Committee. If you or any of your esteemed colleagues fit any of these profiles, we encourage you to connect with UCOWF leadership and enthusiastically convey your keen interest!

***** DISCLAIMER *****

*Highlighting the impact of technology that fraudsters use to game the system and defraud the U.S., this entire introduction (and Postscript) was written by the Artificial Intelligence engine ChatGPT. **Not kidding.***

118th Congress

The 2018 Farm Bill is slated to expire at the end of this month (September 30th, 2023). This month will be frenetic at best as both the House and Senate scramble with the deadline looming. Given the circumstances, all efforts have been made to keep this material as accurate and up to date as possible.

HOUSE BILLS

Updated 09/04/2023

	Title	Sponsor	Description	Latest Action
H.R. 0204	Drug Testing for Welfare Recipients Act	Rep. Reouzer, R-NC	This bill requires the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, and specified public housing programs to subject individuals to substance-abuse screening and to deny benefits for individuals who test positive for a controlled substance.	02/13/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
H.R. 0205	SNAP Theft Protection Act	Rep. Ruppensberger, D-MD	This bill directs the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to establish criteria for state agencies to identify Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits stolen by identity theft or typical skimming practices and provide for the reissuance of stolen SNAP benefits to households that meet such criteria. USDA must periodically review and modify its regulations to consider evolving technology and the threat landscape to better protect against theft.	01/09/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.
H.R. 0253	Puerto Rico Nutrition Assistance Fairness Act	Rep. Conzalez-Colon, NPP-PR	This bill sets out a process to enable Puerto Rico to participate as a state in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Under current law, a state receives SNAP funding based on the number of participating households in the state whereas Puerto Rico receives a block grant to fund its nutrition assistance program. The bill requires Puerto Rico to submit to the Department of Agriculture (USDA) a plan of operation to transition away from the consolidated block grant program to SNAP. USDA must provide appropriate training and technical assistance to enable Puerto Rico to formulate such plan.	02/13/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture

118th Congress

H.R. 0323	People-Centered Assistance Reform Effort Act	Rep. Warren Earl Davidson, R-OH	This bill establishes the People-Centered Assistance Reform Effort Commission within the legislative branch to review federal means-tested welfare programs. Means-tested welfare programs are those designed to specifically provide assistance exclusively to low-income Americans. The commission shall review all federal means-tested programs, excluding various specified programs such as the Social Security benefits program, Medicare, and Department of Veterans Affairs-administered programs. The commission's review shall cover topics including (1) ways to make the benefits programs more efficient and streamlined, (2) opportunities to reduce costs by contracting with private entities or delegating to states, (3) any programs that should be subject to discretionary appropriations, and (4) changes to allow caseworkers to have a holistic view of the beneficiary.	03/13/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
H.R. 0706	SNAP Access for Medically Vulnerable Children Act of 2023	Rep. Brown, Shontel (D-OH)	To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to allow households with children with chronic medical conditions to deduct allowable medical expenses incurred by such household member that exceeds \$35 per month	03/02/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
H.R. 0723	ID for EBT Act of 2023	Rep. Grothman, R-WI	This bill revises provisions related to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to require states to include a photograph of one or more members of a household on electronic benefit cards that are issued to provide program benefits.	03/02/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture.
H.R. 1230	Food Deserts Act	Rep. Carson, A (D-IN)	Establishes a grant program within the Department of Agriculture to reduce food deserts. Under the program, grants are provided to states for revolving funds that support the establishment and operation of grocery stores in underserved	03/22/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign

118th Congress

communities. Underserved communities are communities that have (1) limited access to affordable, healthy foods, including fresh fruits and vegetables, in grocery retail stores or farmer-to-consumer direct markets; and (2) a high rate of hunger, a high rate of food insecurity, or a high poverty rate.

Agriculture, and Horticulture

The bill requires states to use such funds for loans that support grocery stores in underserved communities, including for opening a store (excluding new construction), or supporting an existing store.

In order to qualify for loans, grocery stores must meet criteria enumerated in the bill. For example, grocery stores must (1) emphasize unprocessed, healthful foods; (2) provide staple foods and a variety of raw fruits and vegetables; and (3) charge affordable prices at or below market values.

Further, states must prioritize loan applications from entities that meet criteria related to hiring workers from the underserved community, providing classes or educational information about a healthful diet, sourcing food from local urban farms and gardens, or demonstrating existing supply chain relationships or expertise in the grocery industry.

[H.R. 1427](#)

**SNAP Second
Chance Act of
2023**

Rep. Trone, D-
MD

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to limit the use of business integrity and reputation factors when determining the eligibility of a retail food store or a wholesale food concern to be approved to redeem supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits.

04/04/2023
Referred to the
Subcommittee
on Nutrition,
Foreign
Agriculture, and
Horticulture.

118th Congress

<u>H.R. 1489</u>	SNAP Back Act of 2023	Rep. Crawford, R-AR	To amend the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to repeal the drug felon ban for participation in the supplemental nutrition assistance program under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008.	04/05/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture.
<u>H.R. 1509</u>	Healthy Food Financing Initiative Reauthorization Act of 2023	Rep. Lee, B (D-CA)	Reauthorizes and provides specified funds for the Department of Agriculture's Healthy Food Financing Initiative through FY2028 and for each fiscal year thereafter. (This program provides capacity building and financial resources to eligible healthy food retailers and food supply chain enterprises to assist them in overcoming the high costs and initial barriers to entry in underserved areas.)	04/05/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
<u>H.R. 1510</u>	Improving Access to Nutrition Act of 2023	Rep. Lee, D-CA	To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to repeal the work requirement that disqualifies able-bodied adults for eligibility to participate in the supplemental nutrition assistance program.	03/09/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.
<u>H.R. 1550</u>	Jobs and Opportunities for SNAP Act	Rep. LaTurner, R-KS	To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to restore and standardize work requirements for able-bodied adults enrolled in the supplemental nutrition assistance program.	04/05/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
<u>H.R. 1581</u>	America Works Act of 2023	Rep. Dusty Johnson, R-SD	To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to standardize work requirements for able-bodied adults enrolled in the supplemental nutrition assistance program.	04/05/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
<u>H.R. 1763</u>	Military Family Nutrition Access Act of 2023	Rep. Jimmy Panetta, D-CA	To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to exclude from income for purposes of eligibility for the supplemental nutrition assistance program the basic allowance	04/25/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition,

118th Congress

			for housing received by members of the uniformed services.	Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
H.R. 1765	SNAP Benefits Fairness Act of 2023	Rep. Payne, D [D-NJ]	To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to repeal the limitation on the maximum deduction for shelter expenses allowable for determination of benefits under such Act.	04/25/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
H.R. 2286	TBD	Rep. Biggs, Andy [R-AZ]	To provide for a limitation on availability of funds for US Department of Agriculture, Domestic Food Programs, Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services for fiscal year 2024, not to exceed \$800,000	05/15/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
H.R. 2287	TBD	Rep. Biggs, Andy [R-AZ]	Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, amounts authorized to be appropriated or otherwise available for US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Commodity Assistance Program for fiscal year 2024 may not exceed \$322,139,000	05/15/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
H.R. 2288	TBD	Rep. Biggs, Andy [R-AZ]	Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, amounts authorized to be appropriated or otherwise available for US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Nutrition Programs Administration for fiscal year 2024 may not exceed \$164,688,000	05/15/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
H.R. 2645	Keeping Families Fed Act of 2023	Rep. Yadira Caraveo, D-CO	To amend section 2202 of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act to extend for 1 year the availability of certain flexible benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP).	04/17/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.
H.R. 3037	Closing the Meal Gap Act of 2023	Rep. Alma Adams, D-NC	To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to require that supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits be calculated using the value of the low-cost food plan, and for other purposes.	06/01/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign

118th Congress

				Agriculture, and Horticulture
<u>H.R. 3087</u>	Training and Nutrition Stability Act	Rep. Adriano Espaillat, D-NY (Bipartisan support)	To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to exempt workforce training dollars as income for supplemental nutrition assistance program beneficiaries.	06/01/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture.
<u>H.R. 3126</u>	Keep Kupuna Fed Act	Rep. Tokuda, J (D-HI)	To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to exclude from income certain funds received under the Social Security Act.	06/01/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
<u>H.R. 3127</u>	Supporting all Healthy Options when Purchasing Produce Act (SHOPP Act)	Rep. Crockett, J (D-TX)	To amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to provide families year-round access to nutrition incentives, including hard-to-serve areas, and for other purposes, adding fresh frozen fruits, vegetables, or legumes.	06/01/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
<u>H.R. 3183</u>	EATS Act of 2023	Rep. Gomez, D-CA	To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to remove certain eligibility disqualifications that restrict otherwise eligible students enrolled in institutions of higher education from participating in the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes.	06/01/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture.
<u>H.R. 3474</u>	Senior Hunger Prevention Act of 2023	Rep. Bonamici, D-OR	To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to streamline nutrition access for older adults and adults with disabilities, and for other purposes.	06/23/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture.
<u>H.R. 3479</u>	RESTORE Act of 2023	Rep. Cohen, D-TN	To amend the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to allow individuals with drug	06/23/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee

118th Congress

			offenses to receive benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes.	on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
<u>H.R. 3519</u>	Hot Foods Act of 2023	Rep. Meng, D-NY	To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to permit supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits to be used to purchase additional types of food items.	06/23/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture.
<u>H.R. 3698</u>	Feed Hungry Veterans Act of 2023	Rep. Hayes, D-CT	To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to expand the eligibility of disabled veterans to receive supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits.	06/23/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture.
<u>H.R. 3847</u>	SUPPORT for SNAP Act	Rep. Bonamici, D-OR	To improve nutrition assistance for people experiencing homelessness, and for other purposes.	07/28/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
<u>H.R. 3903</u>	Keeping SNAP in our Communities Act 2023	Rep Espaillat, D-NY	To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to enhance the administrative and judiciary process for SNAP retailers. Gives retailers additional time (10 days to 30) to respond to administrative action by FNS and judicial review for retailer denials, disqualifications, etc., and extends the time to take effect. Mandates a FOIA response within 10 days on materials if requested by the retailer. Requires study on retailer trafficking offenders aggregated by revenue, race, and an audit of FNS ALERT system.	07/28/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture.

118th Congress

H.R. 4033	Nutrition Administration Assistance Act of 2023	Rep. Leger Fernandez, T (D-NM)	<p>To provide additional funds to States for administration of certain nutrition programs, appropriations of \$1,000,000 annually:</p> <p>(a) Commodity Supplemental Food Program.—In addition to funds otherwise made available to State agencies to pay administration costs incurred by State agencies to carry out section 5 of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 612c note), 70 percent of the funds appropriated under section 3 shall be provided to States for such administration costs.</p> <p>(b) Emergency Food Assistance Act Of 1983.—In addition to funds otherwise made available to States to pay administration costs incurred by States to carry out State plans under section 203A of the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 7503), 20 percent of the funds appropriated under section 3 shall be provided to States for such administration costs.</p> <p>(c) Seniors Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program.—In addition to funds otherwise made available to the Secretary of Agriculture for administration costs to carry out section 4402 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 3007), 10 percent of the funds appropriated under section 3 shall be provided to States for such administration costs.</p>	07/28/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
H.R. 4058	Healthy SNAP Act of 2023	Rep. Brecheen, R-OK	To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to require the Secretary to designate food and food products to be made available under the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes.	7/28/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture

118th Congress

H.R. 4060	Food Access and Stability Act of 2023	Rep. Caraveo, D-CO	To amend the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 to repeal the sunset of the work requirement exemption applicable to homeless individuals, veterans, and foster care individuals for the purpose of determining eligibility to receive supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008.	7/28/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
H.R. 4103	Ensuring Fee-Free Benefit Transactions Act of 2023	Rep. Brown, Shontel (D-OH)	To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to make permanent the moratorium on SNAP benefit transaction fees, and other purposes	07/28/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
H.R. 4149	OH SNAP, Close the Fruit and Vegetable Gap Act of 2023	Rep. Blunt Rochester, Lisa (D-DE)	To amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to provide funding for the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program from 50% to 100% federal funding, increased appropriations annually.	07/28/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
H.R. 4154	No Welfare for the Wealthy Act of 2023	Rep. Cline, Ben (R-VA)	To amend Section 5(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 USC 2014a) so no household shall be eligible to receive benefits pursuant to this section if it does not meet the income and resource criteria under subsections (c) and (g).	08/21/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
H.R. 4170	LIFT the BAR Act	Rep. Jayapal, P (D-WA)	To amend the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to provide certain benefits to noncitizens	07/28/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture

118th Congress

<u>H.R. 4368</u>	House Appropriations Act of 2023	Rep Donalds, R-FL	Amendment 3: Revises the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to establish a temporary bipartisan commission within the Census Bureau to improve income and poverty measurement, expand general work requirements to individuals ages 16-64, and hour-based work requirements to individuals ages 18-64 with dependents over six years old, close the "broad-based categorical eligibility" loophole in SNAP and requiring recipients to cooperate with fraud investigations, institute penalties for unauthorized uses of Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) cards and enhancing fraud prevention measures for food retailers, and reinstate the publication of annual SNAP State Activity Reports and allowing states to retain 50% of funds collected from intentional program violations for fraud prevention efforts.	06/27/2023 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 96
<u>H.R. 4368</u>	House Appropriations Act of 2023	Rep Graves, R- LA	Amendment 30: Limits the use of funds under this or any other Act to grant, renew, or extend a waiver under section 6(o)(4)(A) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008. Amendment 31: Limits the use of funds under this Act to carry out the provision that allows a lack of sufficient jobs to qualify for statewide and partial work requirement waivers for able-bodied adults without dependents.	06/27/2023 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 96
<u>H.R. 4456</u>	OHH SNAP Act of 2023	Rep. Williams, D-GA	To allow certain students, including those who have an expected family contribution of zero, to qualify for supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008.	08/28/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
<u>H.R. 4943</u>	Enabling Farmers to Benefit from Processing Nutrition Programs Act	Rep Scholten, D-MI	Streamline the application process for farmers and ranchers to participate as authorized vendors under the various nutrition programs. Streamline the equipment/technology systems needed by farmers to process the benefits under the	07/26/2023 Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee

118th Congress

			various nutrition programs. Provide free wireless or mobile processing equipment and systems for farmers markets.	on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
H.R. 4964	Thrift Food Plan Accountability Act of 2023	Rep Brecheen, R-OK	Require adjustments to the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP) to be budget neutral	08/28/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
H.R. 4969	Ending the Cycle of Dependency Act	Rep Burlison, R-MO	Restore standardized work requirements for ABAWDs to age 65, eliminate waivers, and limit participation to 5 years. Expands work requirements to parents with children over age 6.	08/28/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture
H.R. 4979	Fairness for Small-Scale Farmers and Ranchers Act	Rep Casar, D-TX	A bill to regulate market concentration and competition in the food and agriculture industry, and for other purposes	07/27/2023 — Read twice and referred to: House Agriculture, House Judiciary.
H.R. 5033	Ensuring Accountability for Equity at USDA Act	Rep Phillips, D-MN	A bill to provide standing authority and accountability for the Secretary of Agriculture and senior leadership of the Department of Agriculture to improve the equitable availability and distribution of services and program benefits to the people of the United States, and for other purposes.	07/27/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture

118th Congress

H.R. 5086	COLAs Don't Count Act of 2023	Rep Moore, D-WI	Excludes from income, for the purpose of determining eligibility and benefits, increased income received from cost-of-living adjustments made under titles II and XVI of the Social Security Act, section 3(a)(1) of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 (45 U.S.C. 231b(a)(1)), or section 5312 of title 38 of the United States Code, and income received from supplementary payments received under section 1616 of the Social Security Act.	07/28/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.
H.R. 5094	SNAP Staffing Flexibility Act	Rep Bacon, R-NE	Allows for blended workforces to carry out the supplemental nutrition assistance program under certain conditions; and for other purposes.	08/01/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture

SENATE BILLS

Updated 09/04/2023

	Title	Sponsor	Description	Latest Action
S. 0039	SNAP Education Allocation Modernization Act of 2023	Sen. Rubio, R-FL	A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to modify the allocation of funding to States for the nutrition education and obesity prevention grant program under the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes.	01/24/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.
S. 0039	Let's Get to Work Act of 2023	Sen. Scott, R-FL	This bill modifies and expands work requirements under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and establishes work requirements for families residing in public housing by applying SNAP work requirements to the HUD public housing and tenant-based rental assistance programs.	01/24/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

118th Congress

S. 0497	Military Family Nutrition Access Act of 2023	Sen. Duckworth, D-IL	A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to exclude a basic allowance for housing from income for purposes of eligibility for the supplemental nutrition assistance program.	02/16/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.
S. 0949	Puerto Rico Nutrition Assistance Fairness Act of 2023	Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-NY	A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to transition the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes.	03/22/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.
S. 1036	Senior Hunger Prevention Act of 2023	Sen. Bob Casey, D-PA	A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to streamline nutrition access for older adults and adults with disabilities, and for other purposes.	03/29/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.
S. 1062	Jobs and Opportunities for SNAP Act	Sen. John Neely Kennedy, R-LA	A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to restore and standardize work requirements for able-bodied adults enrolled in the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes.	03/29/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.
S. 1188	SNAP Reform and Upward Mobility Act of 2023	Sen. Mike Lee, R-UT	<p>A bill to help individuals receiving assistance under the supplemental nutrition assistance program in obtaining self-sufficiency, to provide information on total spending on means-tested welfare programs, GOA report on effect of supplementary data on calculation of poverty rates and for other purposes.</p> <p>Sec. 201 – ABAWD Work Requirements Sec. 202 – Employment and Training program outcomes reporting.</p> <p>Sec. 203 – State Matching Funds.</p>	04/18/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

**SNAP Reform and
Upward Mobility
Act of 2023**
<Continued>

Each State that participates in the supplemental nutrition assistance program shall, as a condition of participation, be required to contribute matching funds in an amount equal to, of the funds received from the Secretary by the State for program administration—

- Fiscal year 2023, 10 percent;
- 2024, 15 percent;
- 2025, 20 percent;
- 2026, 25 percent;
- 2027, 30 percent;
- 2028, 35 percent;
- 2029, 40 percent;
- 2030, 45 percent; and
- fiscal year 2031 and each fiscal year thereafter, 50 percent.

Sec. 204 – Eligibility

- No household shall be eligible to receive benefits pursuant to this section if it does not meet the income and resource criteria under subsections (c) and (g).
- To be deemed eligible for participation in the supplemental nutrition assistance program under this subsection, a household shall receive a cash or noncash means-tested public benefit for at least 6 consecutive months valued at not less than \$50.

Sec. 205 – Compliance With Fraud Investigations

To be eligible to participate in the supplemental nutrition assistance program, an individual shall cooperate with any investigation into fraud under that program, including full participation in any—

- meeting requested by fraud investigators; and
- administrative hearing.”.

118th Congress

SNAP Reform and Upward Mobility Act of 2023 <Continued>

Sec. 206 – Requires registration of eligible users of EBT cards, including authorized representatives, and provides penalties (suspended benefits to the household).

Sec. 207 – Reauthorization of Medium or High-Risk Retail Food Stores shall be done annually, as determined by the fraud detection system of FNS.

Sec. 208 – State Activity Reports shall be published every year and have the same information as 2016 and 2017.

Sec. 209 – Disqualification of Retailers by State Agency

Provides authority to permanently disqualify approved SNAP retailers convicted of trafficking or selling firearms, ammunition, explosives, or controlled substances.

Gives State Agency sole discretion to continue SNAP under certain conditions, and permits State agency to assess civil penalties up to \$10,000 for each violation, not to exceed \$40,000.

Sec. 210 – Retention of Recaptured Funds by States

- Restores state retained share of IPV recoveries from 35% to 50%, and
- Retained shares in excess of 35% shall be used by the State for investigations of fraud in SNAP.

[S. 1336](#)

Closing the Meal Gap Act of 2023

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-NY

A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to require that supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits be calculated using the value of the low-cost food plan, and for other purposes.

04/27/2023
Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

118th Congress

S. 1485	Healthy SNAP Act of 2023	Sen. Rubio, R-FL	A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to require the Secretary to designate food and food products to be made available under the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes.	05/09/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
S. 1528	Disaster Assistance Simplification Act	Sen Peters, D-MI	<p>Amends Stafford Act creating Sec. 707 to add definitions and create consolidated application system, allows waivers, privacy assessments on data, publish rules, FEMA and GAO reports to Congress. Programs include FEMA disaster assistance, long-term recovery assistance, restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, SBA loans, and DSNAP under 7 USC 2014(h).</p> <p>S. 1528 would require the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to improve its website, DisasterAssistance.gov, which provides information for individuals, households, and businesses seeking access to federal disaster assistance. Many federal agencies provide information on the portal about the assistance that is available, but the website only allows applicants to apply for one FEMA program and has limited capacity for information sharing among participating agencies.</p> <p>S. 1528 would require FEMA to streamline the application process by allowing individuals and businesses to apply for all available disaster assistance and to facilitate the sharing of applicant information among participating agencies. Under the bill, the portal would need to meet certain functionality requirements, such as protecting data privacy and facilitating agencies' ability to detect fraud and discrimination in the administration of assistance programs.</p>	07/27/2023 Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with amendments by Unanimous Consent. 08/04/2023 Held at the desk

118th Congress

<u>S.</u> <u>1753</u>	RESTORE Act of 2024	Sen. Booker, D-NJ	A bill to amend the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to allow individuals with drug offenses to receive benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes.	05/18/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.
<u>S.</u> <u>2258</u>	Hot Foods Act of 2023	Sen. Bennet, D-CO	A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to permit supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits to be used to purchase additional types of food items.	07/12/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.
<u>S.</u> <u>2563</u>	Tribal Access to Nutrition Assistance Act of 2023	Sen Murray, D-WA	Allow for dual enrollment in SNAP and food distribution program on Indian Reservations	07/27/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

118th Congress

OTHER BILLS

H.R. 3746	Title	Sponsor	Description	Latest Action
	Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023	Rep. McHenry, Patrick (R-NC)	<p>This act increases the federal debt limit, establishes new discretionary spending limits, rescinds unobligated funds, expands work requirements for federal programs, and modifies other requirements related to the federal budget process.</p> <p>TITLE IV DIVISION C – Grow The Economy TITLE I – TANF Changes (Sec. 301) This section changes the comparison year for calculating the caseload reduction credit from FY2005 to FY2015. Under current law, states must meet a mandatory work participation rate by ensuring that a specified percentage of families that receive TANF assistance participate in work-related activities. However, a state may earn a caseload reduction credit to lower that rate by reducing its caseload of families receiving TANF assistance as compared to its caseload in FY2005. This section changes the comparison year to FY2015.</p> <p>(Sec. 302) This section requires the Department of Health and Human Services to award grants to up to five states for piloting alternative ways to measure the states' performance in improving employment and earnings outcomes and other indicators of family stability and well-being for TANF recipients.</p> <p>(Sec. 303) This section restricts a practice whereby some states provide a limited amount of TANF assistance to families as a supplement to benefits that the families receive under another program, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and then count those</p>	06/03/2023 Became Public Law No: 118-5

118th Congress

**Fiscal
Responsibility Act
of 2023
<Continued>**

families when determining the work participation rate. Specifically, the section requires that states must provide those families with a benefit of at least \$35 per month (funded with state expenditures) in order to count the families when determining the work participation rate.

(Sec. 304) This section requires states to report metrics related to the employment and educational outcomes of individuals who exit the TANF program. Specifically, states must report on the employment rate for individuals in unsubsidized employment following their exit from the program and their median earnings. Additionally, states must report on the percentage of individuals under age 24 who obtain a high school degree or equivalent while in the TANF program or within a year of their exit.

(Sec. 305) This section makes the changes to the TANF program generally effective on October 1, 2024. However, changes affecting the caseload reduction credit and the provision of limited TANF assistance are effective on October 1, 2025.

TITLE II – SNAP EXEMPTIONS

(Sec. 311) This section expands applicability of the work requirements for SNAP recipients who are able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs). (SNAP recipients who are ABAWDs have work-related requirements in addition to the general SNAP work registration and employment and training requirements.) Specifically, this section applies the work requirements for ABAWDs to adults who are

- not over 51 years old in FY2023,
- not over 53 years old in FY2024, and

118th Congress

**Fiscal
Responsibility Act
of 2023
<Continued>**

- not over 55 years old in FY2025 and every year thereafter.

Under current law, these requirements apply to adults who are not over 50 years old. These provisions go into effect 90 days after enactment and sunset on October 1, 2030.

Also, the section exempts from the ABAWD work requirements homeless individuals, veterans, and certain individuals who were previously in foster care and are 24 years old or younger.

(Sec. 312) This section prohibits a state agency from accumulating unused exemptions to the ABAWD work requirement and providing them to eligible SNAP recipients beyond the subsequent fiscal year.

Currently, for each fiscal year, a state agency may exempt a certain number of SNAP recipients from the ABAWD work requirements; unused exemptions may be carried over and used in a subsequent fiscal year. Under this section, an unused exemption may not be carried over for more than one year.

Further, this section reduces the percentage of exemptions a state agency may provide each year so that the average monthly number of exemptions does not exceed 8% of covered individuals (i.e., SNAP recipients and certain individuals who were denied SNAP benefits due to the work requirements). Under current law, a state is eligible for exemptions for up to 12% of covered individuals. These provisions apply to FY2024 and each subsequent fiscal year.

(Sec. 313) This section expands the purpose of SNAP to include assisting low-

118th Congress

**Fiscal
Responsibility Act
of 2023**
<Continued>

income adults in obtaining employment and increasing their earnings.

(Sec. 314) This section requires USDA to make public all available state requests for waivers from the SNAP ABAWD work requirements and the approvals of the requests within 30 days of enactment; this includes making public all supporting data from the state about the request and relevant documentation on the utilization of waivers.

This waiver program allows the Food and Nutrition Service to provide a state exemptions from SNAP ABAWD work requirements based on a determination that an area (1) has an unemployment rate of over 10%, or (2) does not have a sufficient number of jobs.

S. 1188 **Improving Digital
Identity Act of
2023**

Sen Sinema,
Kyrsten (I-AZ)

This bill establishes a temporary task force to recommend secure methods and coordinate efforts for digital identity verification (a process for verifying the identity of an individual who accesses a service online or electronically).

Specifically, the bill establishes a task force within the Executive Office of the President to coordinate a government-wide effort for promoting digital identity credentials (e.g., electronic driver's licenses and birth certificates) for use in the public and private sectors. This includes

- identifying the governmental agencies that issue identity credentials or hold information used to identify an individual;
- recommending a strategy for digital identity verification that addresses issues such as privacy, equity, and interoperability; and
- identifying funding or resources needed to support governmental

118th Congress

agencies with adopting digital identity verification.

Members of the task force include representatives from federal agencies; representatives from state, tribal, territorial, and local governments; and nongovernmental experts. The task force must periodically report its findings and terminate three years after the enactment of the bill.

Further, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) must issue guidance for federal agencies to implement task force recommendations, and federal agencies must annually report on their implementation activities. Additionally, the OMB must report on the implementation and effectiveness of federal digital identity capabilities in coordination with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.

The Government Accountability Office must report on the potential savings from averting benefit fraud and identity theft by increasing adoption of digital identity verification



Dear ChatGPT:

"Write a poem about welfare fraud from the perspective of a fraud investigator and in the style of Dr Seuss..."

In a land of food and treats so grand,
A fraud investigator took a stand.
With a heart full of zeal, and a mind so keen,
He sought out fraudsters, oh so mean.

With a magnifying glass in hand,
He scoured records across the land.
For food stamp fraudsters trying to hide,
Their schemes and tricks on every side.

They twisted and turned, oh what a fuss,
Trying to cheat the system, but not fooling us.
They thought they were clever, oh so sly,
But our investigator was just too spry.

He followed the paper trail so clear,
Unraveling lies, without fear.
He caught them red-handed, every time,
Their excuses mere nursery rhyme.

"Oh, I didn't know, I made a mistake,"
They stammered and stuttered, so fake.
But our investigator, with a twinkle in his eye,
Said, "Oh my dear fraudster, nice try!"

He gathered his evidence, strong and true,
Building a case, no one could undo.
He stood for justice, like a hero bold,
In the story of food stamp fraud, untold.

So heed this tale, both far and near,
Fraudsters beware, the end is clear.
A fraud investigator, with wit so keen,
Will uncover your tricks, like in a dream.

For in the land of food and treats so grand,
Justice prevails, under its command.
No fraudster can hide, no matter how shrewd,
For in the end, truth will be pursued.



Cartoon Fraud Investigator as drawn by Artificial Intelligence

