

1.1 A bill for an act
 1.2 relating to food assistance; establishing the Minnesota supplemental nutrition
 1.3 assistance program; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter
 1.4 142F.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. **142F.121] MINNESOTA SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE**
 1.7 **PROGRAM.**

1.8 Subdivision 1. **Purpose.** The Minnesota supplemental nutrition assistance program
 1.9 (MNSNAP) serves adults and children who are at significant risk of hunger due to federal
 1.10 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) cuts and restrictions. MNSNAP seeks
 1.11 to solve the crisis created by ending federal food benefits to veterans, seniors, Minnesotans
 1.12 experiencing homelessness, youth aging out of foster care, new Americans, and working
 1.13 parents who have experienced a job loss.

1.14 Subd. 2. **Eligibility.** Minnesotans who were or would have been eligible for federal
 1.15 SNAP as of June 30, 2025, are eligible for MNSNAP.

1.16 Subd. 3. **Food benefits continuation.** (a) When a participant is determined eligible for
 1.17 MNSNAP, food assistance benefits must continue.

1.18 (b) The commissioner must determine the most appropriate and efficient state-funded
 1.19 mechanism and county process to continue benefits for participants.

1.20 Subd. 4. **Assessment.** (a) Within 30 days of a participant's enrollment in MNSNAP, the
 1.21 county or Tribal agency or state-approved navigator must meet face-to-face with the
 1.22 participant. The commissioner must ensure that the face-to-face meeting occurs.

2.1 (b) During the face-to-face meeting under paragraph (a), the county or Tribal agency or
2.2 state-approved navigator must:

2.3 (1) determine whether the participant's loss of federal SNAP benefits may be explained
2.4 by advanced age, illness, injury, violence, addiction, disability, homelessness, veteran status,
2.5 or a recent exit from the foster care system;

2.6 (2) determine whether the participant is eligible for an exemption under Code of Federal
2.7 Regulations, title 7, section 273.24;

2.8 (3) assist the participant in obtaining a current assessment by a behavioral health or
2.9 medical professional to identify any barriers that would impede the participant's ability to
2.10 consistently comply with the requirements of Code of Federal Regulations, title 7, section
2.11 273.24; and

2.12 (4) identify available resources that may assist a participant who is attempting to meet
2.13 the requirements of Code of Federal Regulations, title 7, section 273.24.

2.14 (c) If the participant fails to attend the face-to-face meeting, the county or Tribal agency
2.15 or state-approved navigator must attempt at least one home visit.

2.16 (d) If a face-to-face meeting is not conducted and the home visit attempt is unsuccessful,
2.17 the county or Tribal agency or state-approved navigator must send the participant a written
2.18 notice that provides information on MNSNAP.

2.19 Subd. 5. **Exiting MNSNAP.** (a) Based on the assessment under subdivision 4, if the
2.20 county or Tribal agency or state-approved navigator determines a participant is eligible for
2.21 a federal exemption under Code of Federal Regulations, title 7, section 273.24, the participant
2.22 must exit MNSNAP and convert to receive federal SNAP benefits.

2.23 (b) Based on the assessment under subdivision 4, if the county or Tribal agency or
2.24 state-approved navigator determines a participant can consistently meet the federal
2.25 requirements in Code of Federal Regulations, title 7, section 273.24, the participant must
2.26 exit MNSNAP and convert to receive federal SNAP benefits.

2.27 Subd. 6. **Moratorium.** Beginning July 1, 2026, the commissioner must enact an
2.28 emergency moratorium on the termination of food assistance for Minnesotans experiencing
2.29 new federal SNAP restrictions implemented after July 1, 2025, where there is no current
2.30 medical, behavioral health, or vocational assessment indicating a participant's ability to
2.31 consistently comply with the federal requirements in Code of Federal Regulations, title 7,
2.32 section 273.24.

3.1 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION; MINNESOTA SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION**
3.2 **ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

3.3 \$..... in fiscal year 2027 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of
3.4 children, youth, and families for the Minnesota supplemental nutrition assistance program
3.5 (MNSNAP) under Minnesota Statutes, section 142F.121.