

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS GABRIELA COLETTA ZAPATA, RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE, SHARON DURKAN, BREADON, FITZGERALD, FLYNN, MEJIA, MURPHY, PEPÉN, SANTANA, WEBER, AND WORRELL



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S FAILURE TO FULLY FUND THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)

**WHEREAS,** The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides essential food assistance to more than 42 million Americans including 16 million children, 4 million people with disabilities, and 1 million veterans helping families put food on the table, supporting local farmers, and stabilizing the economy during crises; *and,*

**WHEREAS,** In Massachusetts alone, more than 1.1 million residents rely on SNAP to afford food, including 32 percent who are children, 26 percent who are seniors, and 31 percent who are people with disabilities. The 15.6% share of the Massachusetts population receiving benefits in FY 2024, is greater than the 12.3% receiving benefits nationwide; *and*

**WHEREAS,** During economic downturns, every \$1 in new SNAP benefits issued can increase gross domestic product by \$1.54, however President Donald Trump has chosen to end SNAP benefits effective November 1, 2025 for the first time in American history by refusing to continue funding this critical anti-hunger program, even during a government shutdown when families need it the most; *and*

**WHEREAS,** This unprecedented and deliberate decision will leave millions of families, children, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities without the means to afford basic nutrition, forcing parents to make impossible choices between paying rent, buying medicine, or putting food on the table; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The Trump Administration is simultaneously implementing harsh new eligibility restrictions under the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act" (OBBBA), which will reduce or eliminate benefits for more than 150,000 Massachusetts residents, including working parents, older adults ages 60–65, homeless individuals, and veterans; *and*

**WHEREAS,** These actions amount to policy violence inflicting hunger and harm on the most vulnerable members of our society, not due to scarcity of resources, but due to a

profound deficit of empathy and moral responsibility; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The United States Department of Agriculture currently holds more than \$8 billion in contingency funds that could be deployed immediately to sustain SNAP benefits and prevent catastrophic hunger across the nation; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Food is not a privilege, it is a basic human right and a moral necessity. Access to nutritious food is essential for health, learning, and human dignity. Hunger is a preventable crisis, a public health emergency, and a moral failure when permitted by those in power; *and*

**WHEREAS,** The Trump Administration's decision to withhold food assistance from 42 million Americans, while continuing to grant tax breaks to billionaires and corporations, demonstrates contempt for working people, disregard for human life, and an abandonment of the federal government's duty to protect the welfare of its citizens; *and*

**WHEREAS,** This man-made hunger crisis will increase pressure on local food banks, community organizations, and charitable partners, potentially quadrupling demand on already overburdened systems and deepening food insecurity across Massachusetts communities; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Governor Maura Healey, Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll, the Massachusetts Legislature, and countless local organizations including the United Way, Project Bread, and food security advocates have joined together to call upon President Trump to reverse this cruel decision and restore full SNAP funding. Although there was hope that President Trump would overturn his decision to upend these vital benefits, the immediate harm this will cause many of our residents who rely on SNAP for nutrition makes it necessary to expedite the filing and consideration of this order; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**RESOLVED,** That the Boston City Council hereby strongly condemns President Donald Trump and his administration for their decision to end SNAP benefits and impose punitive eligibility restrictions that will harm millions of Americans; and that the Boston City Council calls upon President Trump and the United States Department of Agriculture to immediately deploy contingency funds totaling at least \$5.8 billion to maintain uninterrupted SNAP benefits and prevent a national hunger catastrophe.

Filed on: October 29, 2025