

SENATE BILL 213

O4, O1

(PRE-FILED)

4r0137
CF HB 183

By: **Chair, Finance Committee (By Request – Departmental – Human Services)**

Requested: September 18, 2023

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Human Services – Food Supplement Program**
3 **(Summer SNAP for Children Act)**

4 FOR the purpose of making technical and clarifying changes to the administration of
5 certain food supplement benefits for children; increasing the amount the Governor
6 is required to include in the annual budget bill for certain food supplement benefits
7 for children; and generally relating to the food supplement program.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Human Services
10 Section 5–501.1
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Human Services**

16 5–501.1.

17 (a) In this section, “child” means an individual who is under the age of 19 years
18 at any time during a calendar year.

19 (b) (1) Subject to subsections (e) and (f) of this section, if a household includes
20 an individual who receives a federally funded benefit under the food supplement program,
21 the State shall provide matching funds to a county to supplement benefits received under
22 § 5–501 of this subtitle for each child in the household.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) For each child in the household, the combined State and county
2 supplement under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall equal at least:

3 (i) \$30 per month in the months of June, July, and August; and

4 (ii) \$10 in the month of December.

5 (c) (1) A supplement provided under subsection [(b)] **(B)(2)(I)** of this section
6 shall be added to the household food supplement program benefit account [15 days after
7 the federally funded benefit is added to the account] in June, July, and August.

8 (2) A supplement provided under subsection [(b)] **(B)(2)(II)** of this section
9 shall be added to the household food supplement program benefit account [7 days after the
10 federally funded benefit is added to the account] in December.

11 (d) A household may not receive more than one supplement per child under
12 subsection (b) of this section.

13 (e) (1) (i) To receive funding in the following fiscal year for the
14 supplements under subsection (b) of this section, a county shall submit an application to
15 the Department on or before [December 1] **THE DATE ESTABLISHED BY THE**
16 **DEPARTMENT.**

17 (ii) The application shall include the following information:

18 1. [a proposed plan to successfully implement distribution of
19 supplements awarded to the county] **THE NUMBER OF PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS TO BE**
20 **SERVED;**

21 2. [a proposed plan to communicate the availability of food
22 supplement program benefits and supplements to eligible families] **THE COUNTY'S**
23 **COMMITMENT TO CONDUCTING AN EVALUATION TO ASSESS THE EFFECTIVENESS OF**
24 **THE PROGRAM;**

25 3. the process by which the county will evaluate the impact
26 of the supplements;

27 [4. food supplement program eligibility and enrollment rates
28 in the county;

29 5.] 4. certification of the [maximum amount] **AVAILABILITY** of
30 local share funds [available]; and

31 [6.] 5. any other relevant information required by the
32 Department.

1 (2) (i) On or before [January 15 each year] **THE DATE ESTABLISHED**
2 **BY THE DEPARTMENT**, the Department shall notify each county that submitted a
3 complete application of the amount of funding available in the next fiscal year for
4 supplements under subsection (b) of this section.

5 (ii) Receipt of available funding under subparagraph (i) of this
6 paragraph is contingent on approval by the Department of a county's final plan submitted
7 in accordance with paragraph (3) of this subsection.

8 (3) On or before [March 1 each year] **THE DATE ESTABLISHED BY THE**
9 **DEPARTMENT**, a county that is notified of available funding shall submit a final plan to
10 the Department that includes:

11 (i) a communication plan to inform eligible families of the food
12 supplement program and the supplements available under this section;

13 (ii) if funding is not sufficient to provide a minimum supplement of
14 \$100 to all children in the county receiving food supplement program benefits in the fiscal
15 year, a designation of which children will be eligible to receive the supplements under this
16 section;

17 (iii) the criteria used to determine eligibility under item (ii) of this
18 paragraph; and

19 (iv) an evaluation plan to measure:

20 1. the impact of the supplements on recipients;

21 2. food supplement program participation; and

22 3. any other relevant information required by the
23 Department.

24 (4) (i) The Department shall review a final plan submitted under
25 paragraph (3) of this subsection and approve or reject the final plan.

26 (ii) The Department shall notify a county of its decision under
27 subparagraph (i) of this paragraph on or before April 1.

28 (iii) If the Department rejects a county's final plan, the county may
29 submit a revised final plan for approval on or before April 15.

30 (iv) If the Department approves a county's final plan, the
31 Department shall certify the amount of funding that will be provided for the county in the
32 following fiscal year.

1 (5) Each county with an approved final plan shall be awarded funding in
2 accordance with subsection (f) of this section.

3 (f) (1) The State and local shares of funding required for a county with an
4 approved final plan shall be equal to the State and local share percentages established by
5 the State and local cost–share formula for that county required under § 5–303(d)(3)(i) of
6 the Education Article.

7 (2) (i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, in
8 each fiscal year, the Department shall provide the State share of funds for each county with
9 an approved final plan for the fiscal year in an amount equal to the product of:

10 1. the total amount of funds appropriated under subsection
11 (g) of this section; and

12 2. the number of children in households that receive a federal
13 benefit under the food supplement program in the county, divided by the total number of
14 children in households that receive a federal benefit under the food supplement program in
15 all counties with an approved final plan.

16 (ii) The amount of funds provided to a county under subparagraph
17 (i) of this paragraph may not be greater than the State share amount that corresponds to
18 the maximum available local share funds certified under subsection (e)(1)(ii)5 of this
19 section.

20 (3) (i) A county may provide funding in addition to the funding required
21 under paragraph (1) of this subsection to increase the number of supplements provided in
22 the county.

23 (ii) Funding provided by a county under subparagraph (i) of this
24 paragraph may not affect the amount of funding the Department is required to provide
25 under paragraph (2) of this subsection.

26 (g) Each year, the Governor shall include in the annual budget bill an
27 appropriation of at least [\$200,000] **\$5,000,000** for the supplements under subsection (b)
28 of this section.

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
30 October 1, 2024.