



DELAWARE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
STATE OF DELAWARE
411 LEGISLATIVE AVENUE
DOVER, DELAWARE 19901

Office of Governor Matt Meyer
Tatnall Building
150 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd South
Dover, DE 19901

Governor Meyer,

We write on behalf of House and Senate Democratic leadership and the chairs of the Joint Finance and Bond Committees, with urgency and compassion, to request your authorization of state funding to ensure uninterrupted Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits for Delawareans during the month of November.

More than [120,000](#) Delawareans depend on SNAP to feed themselves and their families. We have both the ability and the responsibility to prevent our constituents from going hungry or having to make impossible decisions about whether to buy groceries, to keep the lights on, or to buy needed medications. These are seniors on fixed incomes, parents working multiple jobs, and children whose well-being depends on the stability that SNAP provides. Without this support, tens of thousands could go without enough to eat in the coming weeks – a hardship that no Delaware family should face.

This is a moment to stand with Delawareans who are working, disabled, elderly or raising children – and who rely on SNAP benefits as their food safety net. We urge your office to authorize the use of State or federal resources to cover November's benefits for the tens of thousands of households who rely on them each month. They need sustenance now; we can determine how to replenish funds in the future. This is an emergency that calls for immediate action, and as a government we must show urgency and ingenuity in how we bridge this critical gap for families until the federal government reopens. Beyond identifying immediate assistance, we also encourage you to join us in conversations with our federal delegation to ensure that states that are taking the responsible steps to feed families in need are made whole again when the federal government reopens.

While we cannot control the shutdown politics happening in Washington, we can control how we respond. That is what governing and leading is about – making difficult decisions during uncertain times to protect our most vulnerable neighbors and residents. To do nothing would be to turn our backs on the people that we've taken an oath to serve.

Delawareans are looking for and deserving of leadership and support through this uncertainty. We can provide that support and avoid a significant hardship for tens of thousands of residents by funding SNAP benefits through the month of November. It is imperative that we act quickly this week to ensure that these benefits are available to our residents for next month.

We hope to collaborate with your administration to ensure this critical safety net remains intact for those who rely on it. We are prepared to take immediate legislative action if necessary.

Sincerely,



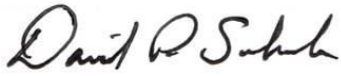
Rep. Melissa Minor-Brown
House Speaker
State Representative
17th District



Rep. Kerri Evelyn Harris
House Majority Leader
State Representative
32nd District



Rep. Ed Osienski
House Majority Whip
State Representative
24th District



Sen. David P. Sokola
Senate President Pro Tempore
State Senator
8th District



Sen. Bryan Townsend
Senate Majority Leader
State Senator
11th District



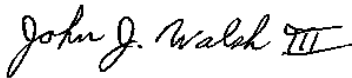
Sen. Elizabeth "Tizzy" Lockman
Senate Majority Whip
State Senator
3rd District



Rep. Kim Williams
Joint Finance Committee Co-Chair
State Representative
19th District



Sen. Trey Paradee
Joint Finance Committee Co-Chair
State Senator
17th District



Sen. John "Jack" Walsh
Joint Capitol Improvement
Committee Co-Chair
9th District



Rep. Debra Heffernan
Joint Capitol Improvement
Committee Co-Chair
6th District