

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 5-25**  
**PLAN TO ADDRESS FOOD INSECURITY DUE TO**  
**LAPSE IN FEDERAL FUNDING FOR SNAP**

**WHEREAS**, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is a critical federal program that helps to combat food insecurity by providing eligible, low-income households with financial benefits redeemable for SNAP-eligible foods at SNAP-eligible retailers; and

**WHEREAS**, due to a lapse in appropriations, the federal government has been shut down since October 1, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has communicated that due to the lapse in federal appropriations, the SNAP program will no longer be able to provide benefits to SNAP recipients starting November 1, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly one-third of Philadelphia residents, or approximately 476,000 people, rely on SNAP benefits to help feed their families and avoid hunger; and

**WHEREAS**, a loss of federal funding for the SNAP program will have a significant harmful effect on Philadelphia's most vulnerable residents, limiting their ability to address their most basic needs of survival and exposing them to imminent health and safety risks associated with food insecurity, as well as financial hardship; and

**WHEREAS**, the loss of SNAP benefits will substantially increase the demand on local charitable food providers that play a critical role in combatting hunger in Philadelphia and supporting the City's low-income communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commonwealth has authorized cities to declare a local disaster emergency under Section 7501 of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management (35 Pa. C.S. § 7501); and

**WHEREAS**, on October 31, 2025, Governor Shapiro of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania issued a proclamation of disaster emergency concerning the cessation of SNAP benefits that, among other things, called upon "governing bodies and executive officers of all political subdivisions that may be affected by this emergency to act as necessary to meet the current exigencies as legally authorized under this proclamation, namely, by the employment of temporary workers; by the rental of equipment; and by entering into such contracts and agreements as may be required to meet the emergency, all without regard to those time-consuming procedures and formalities normally prescribed by law, mandatory constitutional requirements excepted"; and

**WHEREAS**, the loss of SNAP funding seriously and substantially endangers the health, safety, and resources of a substantial portion of Philadelphia's population;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, CHERELLE L. PARKER, Mayor of the City of Philadelphia, by the powers vested in me by the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter and, pursuant to the provisions of Section 7501 of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Services Code (35 Pa.C.S. § 7501), do order as follows:

**SECTION 1. Emergency Response.**

A. I hereby direct all City departments and staff to take appropriate action to address the current disaster emergency without regard to time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law (excepted mandatory constitutional requirements) pertaining to the performance of public work, entering into contracts, the incurring of obligations, the employment of temporary workers, the appropriation and expenditure of public funds, and such other actions as set forth in 35 Pa. C.S. § 7501.

B. The Office of the Finance Director, Law Department, Office of Children and Families, Office of Homeless Services, Department of Public Health, and Department of Planning and Development, in conjunction with all other relevant departments, are hereby directed to take all necessary steps to effectuate the prompt and efficient roll out of the “One Philly SNAP Benefit Support Package,” to address the pressing needs of Philadelphia residents impacted by the current emergency, including the need for food security, housing assistance, and utility support.

**SECTION 2. Effective Date.**

This order shall take effect immediately.

**November 1, 2025**

Date



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Cherelle L. Parker, Mayor