BILL RECONCILIATION TALKING POINTS:
REQUEST NO STATE COST SHARING

The bill proposes a **$211 billion** cut to SNAP over 10 years through an **unprecedented change** in the structure of the program in addition to cuts to eligibility and benefit levels.

Iowa's food banks already face increasing pressure: they distributed over **61 million meals last year**, up from the pandemic peak of 51 million. This trend indicates **deepening food insecurity**, not improvement.

COST-SHARING TO STATES: Puts undue financial burden on Iowa.

1. Under the **new Senate language**, Iowa avoids immediate cost-sharing, but even a slight increase of less than a percent in our error rate would trigger a **$26M penalty**
2. The state will absorb a **$13M hit** due to shifting more **administrative costs** to the states
3. The state **recently had to draw over $900 million from its reserves** to balance the budget—this level of emergency funding use is **unsustainable** long-term.
4. Forcing states to shoulder additional SNAP costs risks **destabilizing state budgets**, leading to potential cuts in other essential services like education, infrastructure, and healthcare.
5. Iowa's exemplary management of SNAP should be **rewarded, not penalized**. Imposing cost-sharing on states with low error rates sends the wrong message and **disincentivizes efficiency**.
6. Congress should look at Iowa's example of implementing a business process redesign focused on increased efficiency and accuracy in the application process and collaborated with the federal government to build a new eligibility verification process
7. Iowa received a $1.8M fine for having an excessive SNAP error rate in 2018 (over 12%), and with the implementation of the new system, it now stands at 5.1%.

Please contact:
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Please sign up for advocacy updates at: https://www.iowafba.org/join-our-mailing-list

www.IowaFBA.org

Iowa Food Bank Association member food banks: