

October 22, 2025

Brooke Rollins Secretary United States Department of Agriculture 1400 Independence Ave Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Rollins:

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) plays a critical role in supporting Wisconsin's kids, families, farmers, veterans, and seniors. It provides vital support to hundreds of thousands of Wisconsinites who, like everyone else, depend on basic necessities like food to survive. This program represents one of our most tested but important American ideals—our responsibility to care for and about our neighbors.

As I announced on Tues., Oct. 21, 2025, Wisconsin's FoodShare program will run out of federal funding in a matter of days—not weeks, days. Stopping FoodShare payments due to the ongoing federal government shutdown stands to affect nearly 700,000 Wisconsinites across our state, including kids, families, veterans, and seniors, who may lose access to basic food necessities.

Empty cupboards and stomachs are not abstract outcomes. They are the very real and near consequences of the dysfunction in Washington. These are also consequences you can prevent today.

The Trump Administration via the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently directed states not to process SNAP benefits for the month of November and to "delay transmission to State EBT vendors until further notice." Nevertheless, the USDA has both the authority and the obligation to continue providing funding to support SNAP programs like Wisconsin FoodShare into November, ensuring we can continue to provide people with basic necessities like food and groceries.

USDA has the tools within their authority to address this crisis now. For example, under 7 U.S.C. 2257, USDA has the authority to transfer funds to sustain SNAP benefits during a lapse in appropriations. Recently, USDA used the interchange authority to preserve WIC benefits. USDA must use all available legal authorities, and there is simply no justification for failing to use these same authorities to protect SNAP recipients.

Wisconsin stands ready to do our part. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services is prepared to continue administering benefits, but we cannot do so if federal funds that are readily available are withheld from us. The Trump Administration must immediately use every legal option available to it to maintain food security and continuity in Wisconsin and to develop immediate solutions to mitigate any preventable lapse in providing basic necessities like food and groceries to kids, families, veterans, and seniors across our state.

The timeline is urgent, and the consequences are severe. Please take swift and decisive action to extend SNAP benefits as long as eligible and readily available federal funding allows.

Respectfully,

Tony Evers

Tony Evers Governor