



SR0257

LRB098 11846 GRL 45024 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, No resident of Illinois should have to be
3 food-insecure; and

4 WHEREAS, 1,932,580, or 1 in 7 residents of the State of
5 Illinois are experiencing food insecurity, meaning they lack
6 access to adequate nutritious food for a healthy lifestyle; and

7 WHEREAS, 684,960, or just over 1 in 5 children in the State
8 of Illinois are experiencing food insecurity; and

9 WHEREAS, Food insecurity is experienced in every county in
10 the State of Illinois; and

11 WHEREAS, Hunger increases health care costs, lowers
12 workers' productivity, harms children's development, and
13 diminishes children's educational performance; and

14 WHEREAS, Fighting hunger is a public-private partnership;
15 in Illinois, a strong private network exists that has provided
16 1.4 million people in Illinois with more than 127 million
17 pounds of food in 2010; however, private charity cannot do it
18 alone and a strong federal hunger relief safety net is
19 required; and

1 WHEREAS, The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
2 (SNAP), the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women,
3 Infants, and Children (WIC), The Emergency Food Assistance
4 Program (TEFAP), the Older Adult Congregate Dining and Home
5 Delivered Meals, The Free and Reduced School Breakfast and
6 Lunch Program, the Summer Feeding Supplemental Program (SFSP),
7 the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), and the
8 Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) are all important
9 pieces to the federal food and nutrition safety net that
10 require State engagement and support; and

11 WHEREAS, SNAP is the cornerstone of the nutrition safety
12 net, with 2 million, or 1 in 6, Illinois residents enrolled in
13 the program; just under half of those utilizing the program are
14 children; and

15 WHEREAS, Any reduction in funding of or change in policy
16 that seeks to exclude individuals from participating in the
17 SNAP Program will increase the number of food-insecure people
18 in Illinois; and

19 WHEREAS, Threats to the federal food and nutrition safety
20 net, including SNAP, exist in both the reauthorization of the
21 Farm Bill and the annual federal budget process; and

22 WHEREAS, Attempts to change State policy for federal food

1 and nutrition programs, including SNAP, can have harmful
2 effects on the food insecure; and

3 WHEREAS, Maintaining the current model of 100% federal
4 funding of SNAP assistance is essential to retaining the
5 program's effectiveness in fighting hunger; and

6 WHEREAS, TEFAP is a means-tested federal program that
7 provides food commodities at no cost to Illinoisans in need of
8 short-term hunger relief through organizations like food
9 banks, pantries, soup kitchens, and emergency shelters; and

10 WHEREAS, The decisions made in developing the next Farm
11 Bill, which includes SNAP, TEFAP, and CSFP, will impact the
12 ability of food-insecure Illinoisans to access the food and
13 nutrition safety they need; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL
15 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge Congress to
16 develop the 2013 Farm Bill with a strong Title IV that protects
17 and strengthens federal food and nutrition programs; and be it
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That we state our opposition to cuts in funding
20 to the federal food and nutrition safety net through the annual
21 federal budget process or any other measures; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That we reject changes to the State's
2 administration of the federal food and nutrition safety net
3 that would limit access or add undo burdens to those families
4 facing food insecurity; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
6 delivered to the members of the Illinois congressional
7 delegation, the President of the United States, and the United
8 States Secretary of Agriculture.