

U.S. SENATOR BOB CASEY



FIGHTING *for* PENNSYLVANIA FAMILIES

Food Assistance for Kids and Families During COVID-19 Act

As Congress continues to respond to COVID-19, more needs to be done to build the capacity of the food assistance system to assist families impacted by the pandemic. As the pandemic continues, more and more individuals and families will lose access to paychecks and will see their households grow more food insecure. Additionally, in order to reinforce guidance that Americans, especially seniors and immunocompromised individuals, stay at home as much as possible, additional steps must be taken to ensure that these individuals are able to access the food they need while remaining at home.

In order to strengthen food security, ensure that young and school-age children can continue to receive food assistance, and enhance the ability of at-risk individuals to stay at home as advised by public health authorities, ***the Food Assistance for Kids and Families During COVID-19 Act*** requires the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), under declaration of a public health emergency, to do the following:

Improve Access to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Delivery

- By notifying retailers of the existing opportunities through which they can deliver groceries to SNAP participants by allowing for the EBT card to be swiped either at the point of home delivery (with a mobile device) or when the order is picked up at the store (the card would need to be obtained from the card holder at home prior to pick-up);
- By authorizing public-private partnerships between USDA and authorized SNAP retailers to support grocery delivery during the emergency; and
- By providing \$500 million in funding through state agencies to reimburse retailers for grocery delivery fees for SNAP participants.

Extend Certification Periods for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) to increase access and program administration

- By extending the WIC certification period for infants from 1 year to up to 2 years; and
- By extend the certification periods for postpartum women to 2 years postpartum.

Provide Flexibilities for The Emergency Feeding Assistance Program (TEFAP)

- By waiving administrative requirements to enable the safest and most efficient delivery of food aid to all who need it during an emergency.

Enhance School Meal Distribution

- By allowing SNAP-Ed funded staff to support school meal distribution while schools are closed.

For More information:

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