

DECEMBER 2023

# SUPPORT THE TRAINING & NUTRITION STABILITY ACT

Ensure Food Security & Successful Employment Training

## BACKGROUND

In the bipartisan 2018 Farm Bill, Congress strengthened SNAP Employment and Training (SNAP E&T) by including paid job training as an allowable activity under E&T. This move demonstrated Congress' support to expand training opportunities for populations with high barriers to employment. **With wage-paid skills training, individuals who are underrepresented in the workforce can access evidence-based work experience that helps them find permanent employment and independence.**

## THE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCE

As states implement SNAP E&T paid training, an unintended consequence has arisen: "income" received from E&T programs for participants' time in job training is counted for the purposes of calculating SNAP eligibility. This results in significant reduction or complete removal of individuals' SNAP benefits because of their SNAP E&T participation. Recipients are then forced to choose between pursuing training to ensure long-term success in the workforce or keeping their food security in the short-term.

## FRED'S STORY

The American Public Human Services Association (APHSA) highlights this challenge in their Farm Bill blog series and endorses the Training & Nutrition Stability Act as a solution. Fred, a Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO) participant in Pennsylvania, related having his SNAP benefits cut as a result of his paid training: **"I have transportation expenses, rent, utilities and more that were not considered before my benefits were cut. My goal is to move forward... I'm actually working to do better so that I can eventually get off benefits completely"**.

Scan to read  
Fred's story:



## THE SOLUTION

To ensure the success of SNAP and bipartisan SNAP E&T changes, Congress should not include income from SNAP E&T programs from SNAP eligibility calculations so that recipients can utilize both programs as they were intended. By enacting this "technical fix," recipients can complete training that is critical to their long-term self-sufficiency without jeopardizing their food security.

**The Training & Nutrition Stability Act (H.R. 3087 and S. 3190) will fix this unintended consequence. Both bills were introduced with bipartisan original co-sponsors:** Rep. Espaillat (D-NY), Rep. Miller (R-OH), Rep. Adams (D-NC), and Rep. Molinaro (R-NY) introduced H.R. 3087, and Sen. Gillibrand (D-NY) and Sen. Ricketts (R-NE) introduced S.3190. **Please contact your lawmakers and urge them to cosponsor this legislation and support this fix in the Farm Bill.**

CALL TO ACTION: SUPPORT H.R.3087 & S.3190



Send a letter to  
your federal  
representatives



Add your  
organization to the  
TNSA coalition

Meet with legislators  
to ask for  
bipartisan support

Contact CEO Policy Associate Nadine Philips (nphilips@ceoworks.org)  
to take action or learn more!