

## ALABAMA STATE SENATE

ALABAMA STATE HOUSE MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-4600

October 27, 2025

Dear Governor Ivey,

We write to express a deep sense of urgency on behalf of the people of Alabama, especially those living in our most vulnerable communities who depend on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to put food on their tables. As the federal government shutdown persists, Alabama families are facing the real possibility of delayed or discontinued SNAP benefits.

Charity and local goodwill play an important role in helping our neighbors during hard times, but charity cannot and should not replace a government that works for the people. The State of Alabama has a moral and practical obligation to ensure that no family goes hungry because of political gridlock in Washington.

The halting of SNAP benefits would not only hurt struggling families, it would also have a devastating ripple effect throughout our economy. Grocery stores, local markets, and small businesses that rely on the spending power of SNAP recipients would experience sharp declines in sales. In rural and underserved communities, where these stores often operate on thin margins, the loss of SNAP revenue could mean layoffs, closures, and long-term economic setbacks. What begins as a federal funding issue quickly becomes a local economic emergency.

We are calling on you to convene a special session of the Alabama Legislature to authorize emergency measures that will sustain SNAP benefits during this federal shutdown. We should explore the use of the state's Rainy Day Fund and other available reserves to prevent a lapse in assistance. These funds exist precisely for moments like this, when the rain is falling hardest on those with the fewest resources.

We stand ready to work with you and my colleagues across the aisle to develop a responsible, temporary funding plan that upholds the dignity and wellbeing of Alabama's citizens. Leadership at this moment will demonstrate our shared commitment to putting people before politics and ensuring that every family in Alabama has access to the food and stability, they need during this time.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your continued service to our great state.

Respectfully,

Senator Linda Coleman-Madison

Senator Robert Stewart V. Senator Bobby Singleton

Senator Vivian Davis Figures

Senator Rodger Smitherman

Senator Billy Beasley

Senator Kirk Hatcher

Senator Merika Coleman