Farm Bill 2023
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TJC and the Nutrition Team

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Our mission: End hunger in Tennessee by protecting and strengthening SNAP, WIC, and Child Nutrition Programs.

• Direct Client Services
• Identifying Program Barriers
• Advocating for Solutions
• Educating and Informing
Agenda:

History & Context
Nutrition Programs
Upcoming Farm Bill & SNAP
Advocacy/Action Opportunities
Key Facts to Know

• Instituted in 1933
• "Omnibus" legislation
• Reauthorized every 5 years
• Covers and funds 12 broad issues called "Titles"
3 Major Buckets

- Farmers and Agriculture
- Nutrition Programs
- Conservation Efforts
NUTRITION PROGRAMS
Nutrition Programs

• First Nutrition Titles were introduced in 1973

• Farm Bill reauthorizes SNAP, FDPIR, TEFAP, CSFP, SFMNP, etc.

• Does not authorize WIC or NSLP

• Made up 76% of 2018 Farm Bill mandatory spending
2018 Farm Bill Highlights

Farm Bill passed w/ bipartisan support: Senate (87-37) & House (369-47)

• Maintained the SNAP-Ed program

• Mandated reevaluation of the Thrifty Food Program (TFP) every five years

• GUSNIP, TEFAP, and CSFP were all bolstered
Thrifty Food Plan (TFP)

- Used to guide SNAP benefit amounts
- First time to be revisited since 1975.
- Benefits increased $36.24 per person per month.
- Congressional pushback due to program increase of $250B
SNAP

• Open-ended mandatory spending, funded through appropriations

• Largest single program expenditure of the Farm Bill

• Leads economic growth
  • $1.00 > $1.50

Figure 1. SNAP Participation and Federal Spending, FY1996-FY2021
Constant (inflation-adjusted) FY2021 dollars
UPCOMING FARM BILL
2023 Farm Bill

- Senate Committee Hearing on Nutrition Programs [HERE](#)
- Senate Committee with Secretary Tom Vilsack [HERE](#)
The Improving Access to Nutrition Act
- Eliminates time limits

The Enhanced Access to SNAP Act (EATS Act)
- Removes unfair work eligibility for college students

The MEAL Act
- Ends the drug felon ban to SNAP participation
**America Works Act (H.R. 8004) (Rep. Dusty Johnson R-SD)** would extend work requirements for ABAWD recipients from ages 18-49 to 18-65. Would remove states' ability to apply for work requirement waivers.

*This bill is getting support from Rep. Ogles (R-TN) as a co-sponsor.*

https://dustyjohnson.house.gov/media/press-releases/johnson-leads-work-requirements-fight-us-house
ADVOCACY/ACTION OPPORTUNITIES
Ways to Take Action

Reach out to TN legislators on the Ag Committee
• Rep. Scott Desjarlais (TN-04)
• Rep. John Rose (TN-06)

Speak against H.R. 8004
• Rep. Andy Ogles (TN-05)

Letter writing, social media, schedule a visit, email/calling

Sharing resources/Monthly newsletters

TJC Story Form
Resources

- TJC SNAP Guide for Families
- TJC Get SNAP page with SNAP App Video
- Vanderbilt report on child food insecurity
- Sycamore Institute report on Child and Family Poverty in TN
- NYT Podcast on Child Poverty
- Census Data on SNAP and Poverty
- FRAC Farm Bill Priorities Worksheet
- CBPP Writeup on legislation for SNAP
QUESTIONS?

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