

REVISED

FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Approved as to Form and Legality


City Attorney

2013 NOV 14 PM 4:01
RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

Introduced by Councilmember Lynette Gibson McElhaney

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE CHANGES IN THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ("SNAP," KNOWN AS CAL FRESH) IN THE 2013 FARM BILL (H.R. 2642, S. 3240), INCLUDING CUTS TO 4.2 MILLION CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS AND 33,747 OAKLAND HOUSEHOLDS PARTICIPATING IN SNAP/CAL FRESH, AND ANY REDUCTIONS IN ELIGIBILITY, BENEFITS, OR STATE AND LOCAL FLEXIBILITY.

WHEREAS, nearly two-thirds of the State's recipients of SNAP/Cal Fresh benefits are children; and

WHEREAS, the changes proposed in the 2013 Farm Bill would have devastating effects on Oakland children and families, who would lose an average of \$295.20 in benefits each year; and

WHEREAS, SNAP/Cal Fresh mitigates the impact of poverty and poor health have on our most vulnerable residents; and

WHEREAS, the proposed 2013 Farm Bill would unwisely eliminate waivers to 1.7 million childless adults - who live in high-unemployment areas - but who are working part-time or participating in work training program, many of whom are veterans or former foster youth; and

WHEREAS, broad eligibility of SNAP/Cal Fresh is critical to ensuring that formerly incarcerated individuals, who have already paid their debt to society, are not excluded from such social services simply due to past transgressions; and

WHEREAS, the flexibility of SNAP/Cal Fresh currently allows for benefits to be spent in farmers markets, to which this local spending power returns dollars directly into our local economies; and

WHEREAS, economists conclude that immediate spending in local economies generates at least \$1.70 in economic activity for every \$1 expended. Last year alone, SNAP/Cal Fresh is estimated to have put over \$7 billion into the local economy; and

WHEREAS, The Congressional Agriculture Committees must approve the 2013 Farm Bill by December 12, 2013; now, therefore be it

7.29

RESOLVED: That the City of Oakland opposes the cuts to benefits, limits on eligibility, and restrictions on flexibility in the 2013 Farm Bill (H.R. 2642, S. 3240); and be it

**MEETING OF THE
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FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City of Oakland hereby directs the City Administrator and City's legislative lobbyist to advocate for the above position to the House and Senate Committees on Agriculture.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, KAPLAN, REID, SCHAAF and
PRESIDENT KERNIGHAN

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST: _____

LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the Board
of the City of Oakland, California

7.29
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CITY OF OAKLAND

BILL ANALYSIS



2013 NOV 14 PM 4:10

Date: November 7, 2013

Bill Number: 2013 Farm Bill (H.R. 2642, S. 3240)

Bill Author: Congressman Frank Lucas (OK)

DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

Contact: Casey Farmer

Department: Office of Councilmember Lynette Gibson McElhaney

Telephone: 510.238.7031 E-mail: cfarmer@oaklandnet.com

RECOMMENDED POSITION: OPPOSE

Summary of the Bill

The Farm Bill is a comprehensive piece of legislation that guides and authorizes funding for most federal farm and food policies, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Every five years, Congress renews the Farm Bill through the reauthorization process. Title IV of the Farm Bill covers domestic food and nutrition and commodity distribution programs. The House Agriculture Committee and the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee have jurisdiction over the Farm Bill.

Extensive research shows that SNAP plays a critical role not just in alleviating poverty and food insecurity, but also in improving dietary intake and health, especially among children. One of the more recent studies on this topic finds that early exposure to SNAP in childhood has favorable impacts on metabolic and economic outcomes in adulthood. And national food consumption data (as measured by USDA's Healthy Eating Index) show that each additional SNAP dollar increased a household's score for overall dietary quality.

Negative Factors for Oakland

- The proposed cuts to SNAP, known in California as Cal Fresh, would reduce annual benefits to 33,747 Oakland families by \$295.20 per year.
- These cuts amount to \$5,976,716.30 on an annual basis.
- The Farm Bill is known to have benefits for local economies. For every dollar expended, it is estimated that \$1.70 in economic activity occurs. Therefore cuts of nearly \$6 million dollars in Cal Fresh benefits to Oaklanders would be detrimental to the local economy.
- By limiting eligibility for childless adults (known as Abie-Bodied Adults Without Dependents) and ex-offenders, many current Oakland Cal Fresh beneficiaries would no longer receive such benefits.

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PLEASE RATE THE EFFECT OF THIS MEASURE ON THE CITY OF OAKLAND:

- Critical** (top priority for City lobbyist, city position required ASAP)
- Very Important** (priority for City lobbyist, city position necessary)
- Somewhat Important** (City position desirable if time and resources are available)
- Minimal** or **None** (do not review with City Council, position not required)

Known support:

National and State Organizations

- AARP (Sept 2013)AARP
- AFL-CIO
- American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)
- Coalition on Human Needs
- Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development
- County of Los Angeles – Board of Supervisors (link to Stabenow letter, identical letter sent to California Senators and Representatives)
- County Welfare Directors Association of California
- FairShare
- Food Marketing Institute
- International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, UAW
- Jewish Community Food Stamp Challenge Steering Committee
- Jewish Council for Public Affairs
- The Jewish Federations of North Amehca

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- The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights
- Michigan organizations
- Minnesota Food Share
- National Anti-Hunger Organizations
- National Conference of State Legislatures (Senate letter)
- National Conference of State Legislatures (House letter)
- NBA
- National Grocers Association
- National Organization letter support McGovern amendment restoring SNAP Farm Bill cuts
- National Organization SNAP support Letter
- National Urban League – Washington Bureau
- Ohio Association of Foodbanks and Ohio Grocers Association:
to Marcia L. Fudge
to Jean Schmidt
to Bob Gibbs
- U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops
- U.S. Conference of Mayors
- 2700+ Organizations letter supporting SNAP
- State Organization sign on letters supporting SNAP

Elected Officials

- *National*
 - o Letter from Sen. Gillibrand and 38 senators to Farm Bill conferees (October 2013)

- o Statement of Administration Policy on H.R. 3102 – Nutrition Reform and Work Opportunity Act of 2013 (September 2013)
- o Letter sent to House Speaker John Boehner (August 2013)
- o Statement from Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi
- o Statement from Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro
- o Statement from Congresswoman Barbara Lee
- o Sen Gillibrand letter forwarding NY Daily News article "Food stamps helped me serve my country. Don't cut them now."
- o Gillibrand, 17 colleagues letter urging Senate to keep Farm Bill whole
- o President Obama statement opposing the House Farm Bill SNAP cuts and threatening veto
- o Senator Murray Farm Bill Letter to Chairman Stabenow
- o McGovern H. Res. 90 Dear Colleague letter opposing SNAP/Food Stamp cuts
- o Senator Gillibrand letter asking for fully funded SNAP in Farm Bill (33 senators signed)
- o House "One Minutes" in response to SNAP cuts in the proposed House Farm Bill
- o Congressional Black Caucus
- o Senator Kirsten Gillibrand's (D-NY) Sense of the Senate Amendment
- o Senator Gillibrand's letter which was signed by 16 Senators asking that SNAP and other low-income programs be protected in any deficit reduction plan.
- o Representatives Rosa DeLauro and Jim McGovern letter which was signed by more than 170 members. Download the alphabetical list of signers.
- State
 - o California Legislature (10/28/13)
 - o California Legislature (6/19/12)

- o California State Senator Darrell Steinberg
- o D.C. Council resolution
- o Los Angeles City Council resolution
- o Massachusetts Governor
- o Massachusetts Congressional Delegation letter
- o Massachusetts State Senate letter
- o New York Governor (September 2013)
- o New York City Council letter
- o New York State Senators letter
- o Washington Governor (September 2013)
- o Governor Inslee (WA) letter to Washington State Congressional Delegation

Statewide Organizations:

- All of Us or None: California
- AltaMed Health Services Corporation
- California Association of Food Banks
- California Food Policy Advocates
- California Hunger Action Coalition
- California Latinas for Reproductive Justice
- California / Nevada Community Action Agency
- California Emergency FoodLink
- California Alliance for Retired Americans
- California Immigrant Policy Colaborative
- Children's Defense Fund - California
- Coalition of California Welfare Organizations
- Fair Share California
- JERICHO: A voice for Justice
- Legal Services for Prisoners With Children
- Lutheran Office of Public Policy of California
- National Association of Social Workers, CA Chapter
- Western Center on Law and Poverty
- Western Regional Advocacy Project
- Women Organizing Resources, Knowledge & Services (WORKS)

Regional Organizations:

- Alameda County Community Food Bank
- DAAC/Turning Point (Sonoma)
- Catholic Social Service Solano
- Fairfield Community Seventh Day Adventist Church
- First Baptist Vallejo
- Feeding America San Diego
- Food Bank of Contra Costa & Solano
- Food Bank for Monterey County
- Food For People, Inc. (Humboldt)
- FoodLink for Tulare County, Inc.
- Jacobs and Cushman San Diego Food Bank
- Hunger Action Los Angeles
- Interfaith Community Food Bank (San Diego)
- Loaves & Fishes of Contra Costa
- Los Angeles Regional Food Bank
- North County Community Services (San Diego)
- North Richmond Neighborhood House
- Power For Living Ministries (Contra Costa)
- River City Food Bank (Sacramento)
- Redwood Empire Food Bank
- Sacramento Hunger Coalition
- Sacramento Housing Alliance
- Saint Anthony Foundation (San Francisco Bay Area)
- San Diego Hunger Action Coalition
- Salud Para La Gente
- San Francisco and Marin Food Banks
- San Francisco Living Wage Coalition
- Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties
- Second Harvest Food Bank Santa Cruz County
- St. Mary's Center (Oakland)
- St. Paul's United Methodist Church of Vacaville
- S. Sacramento Interfaith Partnership Food Closet
- Trinity Baptist Church Food Pantry (Sonoma)
- Visions Christian Center (Contra Costa)

Respectfully Submitted,

Councilmember Lynette Gibson McElhaney
Oakland's District 3

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