LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

SB98

Bill as Introduced

SB 98-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2021 SESSION

21-1020 05/10

SENATE BILL

98-FN

AN ACT

relative to the SNAP incentive program.

SPONSORS:

Sen. Whitley, Dist 15; Sen. Perkins Kwoka, Dist 21; Sen. Sherman, Dist 24; Sen. Rosenwald, Dist 13; Sen. Hennessey, Dist 1; Sen. Prentiss, Dist 5; Rep. Marsh,

Carr. 8; Rep. McWilliams, Merr. 27; Rep. Walz, Merr. 23

COMMITTEE:

Health and Human Services

ANALYSIS

This bill requires the department of health and human services to implement SNAP health incentive programs and makes an appropriation to the department for this purpose.

Explanation:

Matter added to current law appears in bold italics.

Matter removed from current law appears [in-brackets and struckthrough.]

Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty One

AN ACT

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2021

relative to the SNAP incentive program.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 Duties of the Department of Health and Human Services; Administration of State Food Stamp Program; Reference to SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) Added. Amend RSA 161:2, XIII to read as follows:

XIII. Food Stamp Program. Develop and administer a food stamp program within the state, also known as SNAP, the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program, under the provisions of the Federal Food Stamp Act of 1964, as amended, and in accordance with Federal Regulations duly promulgated by the United States Department of Agriculture and the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

XIII-a. SNAP Incentive Programs. Implement SNAP incentive programs enabling beneficiaries of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to receive a dollar-for-dollar match for fresh fruits and vegetables, with an emphasis on locally grown, at participating farmer's markets, farm stands, mobile markets, community supported agriculture sites, grocery stores, or other participating direct food retailers.

2 New Paragraph; Department of Health and Human Services; Rulemaking. Amend RSA 161:4a by inserting after paragraph XI the following new paragraph:

XI-a. The implementation of SNAP incentive programs under RSA 161:2, XIII-a.

- 3 Department of Health and Human Services; Appropriation. The sum of \$150,000 for the biennium ending June 30, 2023 is hereby appropriated to the department of health and human services for the SNAP incentive programs under RSA 161:2, XIII-a. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.
 - 4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.

SB 98-FN- FISCAL NOTE AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT

relative to the SNAP incentive program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

[X] State

[] County

[] Local

[] None

STATE:	Estimated Increase / (Decrease)			
	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Appropriation	\$0	\$150,000	\$0	
Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Expenditures	\$0	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0
Funding Source:	[X] General] Education] Highway [_] (Other 🔭 📜

METHODOLOGY:

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to implement incentive programs through the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP). The incentive programs would allow SNAP beneficiaries to receive a dollar-for-dollar match for the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables. The bill provides a \$150,000 general fund appropriation for the purposes of the program in the FY22/23 biennium.

The Department of Health and Human Services states that as of January 2021, two SNAP incentive programs operate within NH by raising private funds, which are then matched by the federal government through the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP). The Department assumes the bill will allow it to contract with organizations to fund new or existing SNAP incentive programs, and to establish objective criteria by which bids or submissions for such contracts will be reviewed. The Department further assumes it will be constrained by the \$150,000 appropriation contained in the bill, limiting general fund expenditures to that amount.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Health and Human Services

SB 98-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2021 SESSION

21-1020 05/10

SENATE BILL

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Carr. 8; Rep. McWilliams, Merr. 27; Rep. Walz, Merr. 23

COMMITTEE:

Health and Human Services

5-0 CONSENT

ANALYSIS

This bill requires the department of health and human services to implement SNAP health incentive programs and makes an appropriation to the department for this purpose.

Explanation:

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[X] State

[] County

[] Local

[] None

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Funding Source:	[X] General	[] Education [] Highway [Other

METHODOLOGY:

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to implement incentive programs through the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP). The incentive programs would allow SNAP beneficiaries to receive a dollar-for-dollar match for the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables. The bill provides a \$150,000 general fund appropriation for the purposes of the program in the FY22/23 biennium.

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AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Health and Human Services

Committee Minutes

SENATE CALENDAR NOTICE Health and Human Services

Sen Jeb Bradley, Chair Sen James Gray, Vice Chair Sen Kevin Avard, Member Sen Tom Sherman, Member Sen Rebecca Whitley, Member

Date: January 28, 2021

HEARINGS

Wednesday		02/03/20	02/03/2021		
(Day) Health and Human Services		(Date))		
		REMOTE 000	9:00 a.m.		
(Name of Committee)		(Place)	(Time)		
9:00 a.m.	SB 98-FN	relative to the SNAP incentive program.			
9:15 a.m. SB 97 adopting omnibus legislation relative to health insur		ı insurance.			

Committee members will receive secure Zoom invitations via email.

Members of the public may attend using the following links:

- 1. Link to Zoom Webinar: https://www.zoom.us/j/99175018421
- 2. To listen via telephone: Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
- 1-301-715-8592, or 1-312-626-6799 or 1-929-205-6099, or 1-253-215-8782, or 1-346-248-7799, or 1-669-900-6833
- 3. Or iPhone one-tap: US: +13126266799,,99175018421# or +16465588656,,99175018421#
- 4. Webinar ID: 991 7501 8421
- 5. To view/listen to this hearing on YouTube, use this link:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjBZdtrjRnQdmg-2MPMiWrA

6. To sign in to speak, register your position on a bill and/or submit testimony, use this link:

http://gencourt.state.nh.us/remotecommittee/senate.aspx

The following email will be monitored throughout the meeting by someone who can assist with and alert the committee to any technical issues: remotesenate@leg.state.nh.us or call (603-271-6931).

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

Sponsors: SB 98-FN

Sen. Whitley Sen. Hennessey Sen. Perkins Kwoka Sen, Prentiss Sen. Sherman Rep. Marsh Sen. Rosenwald Rep. McWilliams

Rep. Walz
SB 97
Sen. Hennessey

Griffin Roberge 271-3042

<u>Jeb Bradley</u> Chairman

Senate Health and Human Services Committee

Kirsten Koch 271-3266

SB 98-FN, relative to the SNAP incentive program.

Hearing Date:

February 3, 2021

Time Opened:

9:05 a.m.

Time Closed:

9:54 a.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Bradley, Gray, Avard, Sherman and Whitley

Members of the Committee Absent: None

Bill Analysis:

This bill requires the department of health and human services to implement

SNAP health incentive programs and makes an appropriation to the department for this

purpose.

Sponsors:

Sen. Whitley

Sen. Perkins Kwoka

Sen. Sherman

Sen. Rosenwald

Sen. Hennessey

Sen. Prentiss

Rep. Marsh Rep. McWilliams

Rep. Walz

Who supports the bill: To see the complete sign-in sheet please contact Senate Health and Human Services Committee Legislative Aide, Kirsten Koch, at <u>kirsten.koch@leg.state.nh.us</u>

Who opposes the bill: None

Who is neutral on the bill: Molly Lynch, DHHS; Shannon Ouellette.

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Senator Whitley

NH Senate District 15

- The SNAP Incentive Program operates under the food stamp program. It allows shoppers to purchase fresh produce with a dollar-match. Therefore, recipients can purchase fresh produce at half price.
- The benefits to the SNAP Program are it will bring more money into the local economy, provide health benefits to recipients, and new opportunities for local farmers to sell their produce. This is a triple win.
- SNAP incentives are already available in NH and are available at farmers markets and 18 grocers through Granite State Market Match (GSMM) and Double-Up Food Bucks, who are privately funded programs of the SNAP incentive program.

- SB 98-FN provides that a modest state investment of \$150,000 will create infrastructure in state government to be able to draw down additional federal dollars and broaden access to the SNAP Program.
- Senator Bradley said, the fiscal note provides \$150,000 appropriation. What would be your anticipation if this were to be approved in the future?
 - Senator Whitley said she anticipates that the amount would be something similar to \$150,000 and there is data to match that estimate.

Allan Reetz - submitted written testimony

Director of Public & Government Affairs, Hanover Co-op Food Stores

- Hanover Co-op has three stores in NH and has become the second largest food co-op in the
 United States. In early 2018, Hanover Co-op became one of the largest Double-Up Food
 Bucks retailers in New England. Mr. Reetz said Hanover Co-op saw immediate impact
 and people quickly signed up for the program with a level of need that was surprising.
 SNAP recipients visiting Hanover Co-op stores have spent over \$100,000 in fresh produce
 yet paid only half that price.
- NH needs more retailers to extend this program, especially in Nashua, Manchester, and in the seacoast area. This request for \$150,000 is necessary to make progress in those areas.
- Recipients want to eat healthy and stretch their dollar.
- SB 98-FN will double up on federal and state dollars.
- Senator Bradley asked, can you outline, as the manager of Hanover Co-op, how this works for your customers? How does a customer stretch their grocery dollars?
 - o Mr. Reetz said that a SNAP recipient is someone who qualifies for benefits. When a SNAP recipient comes through a grocery line, there is a certain amount of anonymity that must be maintained for privacy. Shoppers qualify for the Double-Up Food Bucks and shop for appropriate purchases. A card is scanned so the system knows if their purchases qualify. They receive up to 50% off local produce, up to \$20 per day. This is a win for the summer produce season. Customers can afford to shop for local produce at small local stores.
 - o Senator Bradley asked, so people have to pre-qualify for this initiative?
 - Mr. Reetz said, yes, they are SNAP recipients. Double Up Food Bucks is an initiative that is a partner to the SNAP program that focuses on fruits and vegetables.
 - Senator Bradley said, these questions of qualification can be asked of the DHHS too.
- Senator Sherman mentioned small grocers and asked, is this a win for small agriculture in NH too?
 - o Mr. Reetz responded, yes and this is vital for small grocers in small towns. We are not alone in trying to fill this gap, and we are very fortunate. When there were shortages, stores like ours were critical for getting food to people who needed it during the time of COVID.
- Senator Bradley said he knows the challenges of being in the grocery business.

Coordinator, Granite State Market Match

- The GSMM program that offers SNAP incentives directly to consumers and focuses on farm stands and local agriculture. SNAP incentives are now offered at 49 independent venues and 18 retailers. The SNAP Program allows individuals, who traditionally spent on food grown outside of NH or the US, to afford local produce.
- In 2020, the use of the program increased 22% and consistent across every county in the state. Over 3,000 households use GSMM to purchase produce.
- The program impacts the health and well-being of NH residents who otherwise cannot afford fresh produce. It is important for farmers to be able to sell to local communities and boost the local economy.

Morgan Morani

Program Coordinator, Seacoast Eat Local

- Seacoast Eat Local operates farmers markets and farm stands that offer SNAP incentives.
- Ms. Morani shared anecdote about an EBT card recipient interested in the SNAP incentive program because she could not afford fresh produce.
- Senator Bradley, for this SNAP incentive program to work the retailer must accept the EBT card?
 - o Ms. Morani said, yes. We offer a produce coupon at the farm stand.

Rebecca Woitkowski - submitted written testimony

New Futures

- Access to fruit and vegetables is essential to children and families. Poverty in childhood increases state costs and effects lifelong health.
- SNAP incentives provide access to food that would otherwise be out of reach for individuals that cannot afford fresh produce. It also creates a sense of community with local producers and grocers, as well as a local economic boost.
- COVID-19 has especially placed insurmountable burdens on families.
- Ms. Woitkowski's written testimony includes over twenty letters of support for SB 98-FN.
- Ms. Woitkowski wanted to respond to an earlier question regarding future costs: programs are limited by funding, if the state were to approve \$150,000, the program cannot go beyond that. The program does not grow by participants, it grows by appropriated funding. This program exists in Massachusetts, which has \$8 million dollars invested in their SNAP incentive program, Maine, and Vermont. This is a very modest start.
- Senator Sherman said, we are in a budget crunch, in the middle of COVID, but also trying
 to make sure businesses are not in the hole. Could you comment on the economic benefit?
- Ms. W., said this is a positive economic benefit for businesses. If the state chooses not to do this, we risk losing federal draw down. There is also fundraising on a private level. The federal level is looking to give more money to states that have existing infrastructures for the program. This money goes to small retailers, farmers markets, and retailers.
- Senator Sherman said, right now we are talking about a \$150,000 general fund allocation. He then asked, would it be smart for us to make sure this program can receive charitable donations or federal funding without any speed bumps?

- Ms. W. said, that would be great. We also want to be sure there is not an administrative burden and federal funds can come down. Some programs are already able receive federal funds. I think the charitable funds are already taken care of with the infrastructure that exists.
- Senator Bradley said, that is a question for DHHS.
- Senator Whitely asked, do you have a sense of how much federal stimulus could come to NH?
 - o Ms. W. said, there is a lot of national lobbying. We are determined, based on the need, and expanding programs in the state of NH.
- Senator Whitely, Would state level infrastructure show that need?
 - o Ms. W. said, yes, other philanthropy organizations are interested in contributing funds to the state but did not because there is not state level infrastructure. Ms. W. stated she would like to not miss those opportunities again.

Ms. W. later requested to testify for a second time during the hearing to clarify some topics discussed.

• Ms. W. said, the appropriation does not mean every recipient can utilize the program. There is some risk to continued contributions. The reason the amount is \$150,000 is what we need to reach even more families and more people would be interested. There was a thought process to be conservative behind the \$150,000 request.

Tiffany Dodier - submitted written testimony

Dietician, NH Public Health Association

- Ms. Dodier shared an anecdote about people in need of healthy food that cannot afford it.
- Infant milestones, IQ, immunity, and child behavior are all effected by diet quality. Antioxidants and beneficial compounds in fruit and vegetables are essential. There are 100,000 deaths that occur from eating too few fruits and vegetables. SNAP recipients eat up to five servings per day of fruit and vegetables per day.

Jess Gerrior

- Ms. Gerrior shared an anecdote about herself as a mother who has used the food assistance programs in the past.
- Ms. Gerrior said, the SNAP program allows for food choice and NH has been responsive to those in need with this program.

Jessica Margeson

- Ms. Margeson shared an anecdote about her daughter with celiac disease, who needs this program to get fruits and vegetables.
- Ms. Margeson wants to see more foods included in these programs.

Liz Alpern

Administrator, Double-Up Food Bucks

- Administrator for the program in NH since 2017.
- Double Up Food Bucks does plan on obtaining private funds, state funds, and federal funds. Ms. Alpern wanted to clarify the state and federal funds are not the only source of funds.
- Double Up Food Bucks reached 8,000 NH families and there is much more need out there. Ms. Alpern wants to continue to grow the program.
- Ms. Alpern referred to written testimony that includes letters from local business that supported this program due to increased produce purchasing and enthusiasm seen in their shoppers.
- Senator Sherman asked:
 - o (1) How big is your budget right now with just private funds?;
 - o (2) Are you applying for federal match for those private funds?;
 - o (3) Are you doing active marketing to reach more eligible recipients?
- Ms. Alpern said they are absolutely doing marketing. The NH Food Bank holds GSMM and both will apply to the federal match, and the application is due in March. The last application was submitted in late 2018. The private funds in 2020 allowed for \$95,000 for GSMM and \$100,000 at grocery stores. That's about \$225,000 in redemptions, and that gets doubled with federal dollars.

Summary of testimony presented in opposition: None

Neutral Information Presented:

Molly Lynch

Legislative Liaison/Attorney, DHHS

• Ms. Lynch virtually attended the hearing to answer any questions and she testified alongside Maureen Burke.

Maureen Burke

NH SNAP Administrator, DHHS

- Ms. Burke was available to answer any questions from the committee.
- Senator Sherman asked:
 - o (1) Do we need have it written into statute that these programs may accept private donations and federal dollars in the line-item to maximize the funding? Do we need to modify the bill for this?
 - o (2) Is maximizing funding critical to maximizing federal funding to be matched? Is it helpful to have all the funding in one account so that the federal match would be larger?
- Ms. Lynch said, in drafting the FN we assumed we would be doing an RFA with the \$150,000. We would create objective criteria, appropriate the \$150,000, and then that amount would be matched with federal funds.

- Ms. Burke said, the SNAP programs would be participating in an incentive program
 grant. They organization would have to be a recipients of this grant. Then they can receive
 the federal matching funds. We would require the organization to have the grant.
- Senator Bradley asked, who is the 'organization' you are talking about?
 - Ms. Burke: The Double Up Food Bucks or the GSMM. These would be the organizations that applied for the funding.
- Senator Bradley asked, according to the FN, it would appear you already have these SNAP programs in NH. It appears there must be a way to accept private funding?
 - Ms. Burke said, GSMM and Double Up Food Bucks are the recipients for the funding.
- Senator Bradley asked, so there would be no need for an amendment to accept private or charitable donations?
 - o Ms. Burke said, I don't think the state be able to do that.
- Senator Sherman, what would be the impact if we didn't do the \$150,000 allocation?
 - o Ms. Burke answered that the \$150,000 could be matched federally. So the program would then be missing out on \$300,000.
- Senator Sherman said, we want to know where the dollars are going and to support small businesses. We talk a lot about giving blanket grants to people. He then asks if there is there any idea of how much need there is in NH and if \$150,000 is an appropriate allocation?
 - o Ms. Burke said, there are 72,000 recipients in NH as of December 2020 and it would be available to them all statewide.
- Senator Sherman asked, so our allocation is \$2 per recipient?
 - o Ms. Burke agreed.
- Senator Whitley asked, this is not providing additional burdens on the state, except for creating an RFP for the money to go out?
 - o Ms. Burke said that is correct.
- Senator Whitley asked, as for receiving federal dollars, how is that coming in? is it for the SNAP incentive program or for the SNAP program at large?
 - o Ms. Burke said she cannot answer that at this time.
- Senator Bradley asked, if we allocate \$150,000 and it is matched by federal funds, and then its \$300,000, and then it runs out, what happens to the individual recipient?
 - o Ms. Lynch said, there would still be private funds raised for these programs. The programs would probably be in existence even if the federal funds ran out.
- Senator Bradley asked, are these programs in existence for foods other than fruits and vegetables? Would there be other food items eligible?
 - o Ms. Burke said the program is only available for fruits and vegetables.

KNK

Date Hearing Report completed: February 5, 2021

SENATE CALENDAR NOTICE Finance

Sen Gary Daniels, Chair Sen John Reagan, Vice Chair Sen Bob Giuda, Member Sen Erin Hennessey, Member Sen Chuck Morse, Member Sen Lou D'Allesandro, Member Sen Cindy Rosenwald, Member

Date: February 11, 2021

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Tuesday	02/16/202	02/16/2021		
(Day)	(Date)			
Finance	REMOTE 000	1:00 p.m.		
(Name of Committee)	(Place)	(Time)		

1:00 p.m. EXECUTIVE SESSION ON PENDING LEGISLATION

Committee members will receive secure Zoom invitations via email.

Members of the public may attend using the following links:

- 1. Link to Zoom Webinar: https://www.zoom.us/j/91942497442
- 2. To listen via telephone: Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
- 1-301-715-8592, or 1-312-626-6799 or 1-929-205-6099, or 1-253-215-8782, or 1-346-248-7799, or 1-669-900-6833
- 3. Or iPhone one-tap: 19292056099,,91942497442# or 13017158592,,91942497442#
- 4. Webinar ID: <u>919 4249 7442</u>
- 5. To view/listen to this hearing on YouTube, use this link:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjBZdtrjRnQdmg-2MPMiWrA

6. To sign in to speak, register your position on a bill and/or submit testimony, use this link: http://gencourt.state.nh.us/remotecommittee/senate.aspx

The following email will be monitored throughout the meeting by someone who can assist with and alert the committee to any technical issues: remotesenate@leg.state.nh.us or call (603) 271-6931.

Deb Martone 271-4980

Gary L. Daniels Chairman

Speakers

Name	Title	Representing	Position	Testifing
Whitley Becky	An Elected Official	Senate District 15	Support	Yes
Lynch Molly	State Agency Staff	NH DHHS	Neutral	Yes
REETZ ALLAN	A Member of the Public	Hanover Co-op Food Stores	Support	Yes
Cornwell Brendan	A Member of the Public	Granite State Market Match	Support	Yes
Morani Morgan	A Member of the Public	Myself and Organization- Seacoast Eat Local	Support	Yes
Margeson Jessica	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes
Burke Maureen	State Agency Staff	Myself	Support	Yes
WOITKOWSKI REBECCA	A Lobbyist	New Futures Kids Count	Support	Yes
Dodier Tiffany	A Lobbyist	NH Public Health Association	Support	Yes
Rejwan-Day Inbal	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Gould Sherry	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Moinnis Jennifer	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Rollo Mike	A Lobbyist	American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network	Support	No
Kennedy Marti	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Cochrane Eleanor	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Lanigan Cathy	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Hinebauch Melissa	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Wolff Kristina	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Bolster Elise	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Weinrebe Richard	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Ouellette Shannon	A Member of the Public	Myself	Neutral	No
Pedersen Michael	An Elected Official	Hillsborough 32	Support	No
Garland Cynthia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Achorn Karen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Ames Peter	A Member of the Public	Foundation	Support	No
Morris Tikatia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
St.Martin Susan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Paradis Crystal	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No
Milliken Laura	A Lobbyist	NH Hunger Solutions	Support	No
Hennessey Erin	An Elected Official	SD1	Support	No
Shaffer Lindsey	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Freeman-Woolpert Julia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Torpey Jeanne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Gerrior Jess	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Freierman Rachel	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Mover Joel	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Vaughan Nancy	A Lobbyist	American Heart Association	Support	No
Jones Jennifer	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Bigford Kathleen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Ingram April	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Istel Claudia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Hawk Heidi	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Mangipudi Latha	An Elected Official	Hills 35	Support	No
Pouliot Denise & Denise & Paul	A Member of the Public	Cowasuck Band of the Pennacook Abenaki People	Support	No
Hardie Hale Erin	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Markus Amy	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Bockley Wes	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Westenhiser Tara	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
McCarter Jayson	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Ellermann Maureen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Hunter Paula .	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Frey Gina	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Frey Kevin	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Bosman Jim	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Moriah W	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
		• ,	- -	

Elhuni Asma	A Lobbyist	Rights and Democracy	Support No
Beaulieu Rebecca	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
DiNapoli Pamela	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Waldron Martin	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Husby Tristan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Duran Carrie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Hill Conor	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
M Sandra	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
McKinney Dawn	A Lobbyist	NH Legal Assistance	Support No
Hurley John	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Katusiime Viola	A Lobbyist	Granite State Organizing Project	Support No
Knoy Sarah Jane	A Lobbyist	Granite State Interfaith Action Fund	Support No
Soares Bruno	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Hayward Ellie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Fenner-Lukaitis Elizabeth	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Dresser Sarah	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Richman Susan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Brennan Nancy	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Beaudoin Jennifer	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Itani Nesreen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Young Lauren	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
van der Laan Sharon	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Kasson Michael	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Carter Lilian	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Nixon Sherrill	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Baum Patti	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Benkert Mary	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Ragen-Coffman Debra	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Perencevich Ruth	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
OConnor Caitlin	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Richards Matthew	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Garfinkel Judi	A Member of the Public	Myself .	Support No
Brown James	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Cox Sarah	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Feltheim Michael	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Benham Linda	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Alpern Elizabeth	A Member of the Public	Double Up Food Bucks NH	Support No
Smith Maria	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Small Jameson	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Tinker Eric	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Desilets Naomi	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Grella Melissa	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Zemla Stacey	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Mattlage Linda	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Anderson Keryn .	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Gawel Sophia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
De Buy Wenniger Isabella	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
carey brenda	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Ely Alice	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Foster Joanne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Flanders Hanna	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Hammar Mary	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Pacapelli Cheryle	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Dube Jennifer	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
Grossi Anne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support No
			Support No

,

Bailey Gerianne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Sup	pport l	No
Parshall Lucius	An Elected Official	Myself	Sup	pport 1	No
Fordey Nicole	A Member of the Public	Myself	Տար	•	No
Madison Andrew	A Member of the Public	Myself	Sup	•	No
Curtis Cassandra	A Member of the Public	Myself	Sur		No
Smith Donald	A Member of the Public	Myself	Sup	pport	No
Parshall Christine	A Member of the Public	Myself	Sup	pport	No
Perkins Kwoka Senator Reb	e An Elected Official	Myself (SD 21)	Su	pport	No
Marsh William	An Elected Official	Carroll 8	Sup	pport	No
Lindpaintner Lyn	A Member of the Public	Myself	Տար	pport	No
Podlipny Ann	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Gorhan Jessica	A Member of the Public	Greater Nashua Food Council			No
QUIROGA LARA	A Member of the Public	Myself	Sup	pport	No
Burchett Catheryn	A Member of the Public	Myself	Տալ	pport	No
Angers Laura	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Harpster Sarah	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Neville Betsey	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Hoh Rachel	A Member of the Public	Myself	· Suj	pport	No
Brickett Jane	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Applewhite Jordan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Su	pport	No
Griffin Ann	A Member of the Public	Myself	Su	pport	No
Spencer Louise	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Hayes Randy	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Casino Joanne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Griffin Johann	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Astle Ellen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
McKee Bridget	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Talcott Erin	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Chase Stephanie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Morales Devon	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Rosenwald Cindy	An Elected Official	SD 13	Suj	pport	No
van der Laan Kyle	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Straiton Marie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Beffa-Negrini Patsy	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Hampton Doris	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Griffin Catherine	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Walz Mary Beth	An Elected Official	Merrimack 23	Suj	pport	No
Wittenauer Janet	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Olivier Karen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Hutchings Deborah	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Pierog Jake	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Annett Taylor	A Member of the Public	Myself	\$u _l	pport	No
Annett Lara	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Spielman Kathy	A Member of the Public	Myself	Suj	pport	No
Spielman James	A Member of the Public	Myself	Su	pport	No
Rettew Annie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Su	pport	No
Chase Wendy	An Elected Official	Myself	Su	pport	No
Rockwell Sarah	A Member of the Public	Myself	Su	pport	No
Schnell Robin	A Member of the Public	Myself	Su	pport	No
Wiggins Sarah	A Member of the Public	Myself	Su	pport	No
Bower Jonathan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Su	pport	No
Donnelly Ryan	A Lobbyist	Granite State Independent Living	Su	pport	No
Corell Elizabeth	A Member of the Public	Myself	Su		No
Sherman Senator Tom	An Elected Official	SD 24	Su		No
Willing Maura	A Member of the Public	Myself	•		No
McWilliams Rebecca	An Elected Official	Merrimack 27	Su	pport	No

Stott Grace Laufersweiler Lauren A Member of the Public A Member of the Public Myself Myself Support Support No No

Testimony



Submitted: February 3, 2021

I'm Allan Reetz, Director of Public and Government Affairs at the Hanover Co-op Food Stores. Our business is the second-largest food co-op in the United States. I am speaking in support of Senate Bill 98-FN.

I must admit, it is hard for me to imagine living day-to-day when every part of life is impacted by scarcity. I have never experienced a lack of food where stretching every dollar was all consuming.

Though the portrait of hunger is one I'm not able to accurately portray, what I can do is share some of what I know of the early success of the Double Up Food Bucks program in our part of New Hampshire.

In 2018, the Hanover Co-op became one of the largest Double Up Food Bucks retail locations in New England and New York. The team at our business accepted the challenge of integrating this proven initiative into our large operation. Then, we saw immediate impact. I'm *not* talking about impact to our bottom line, but in the lives of people-in-need who quickly signed up for the program. Sign-ups showed a level of need that surprised even us...a New Hampshire business that has sold groceries to people of all income levels since 1936.

To-date, since we joined the program, SNAP recipients visiting our stores have purchased over \$100,000 in fresh produce, yet paid only half that price.

New Hampshire needs more retailers around the state to help address the gap we are striving to fill every day. You have the power to extend this program into other local grocery stores. Nashua and Manchester need more coverage. I've learned there is only one Double Up retailer in the Seacoast area. This small request for \$150,000 can make progress in those areas.

People with limited incomes know the value fresh produce provides. At the Hanover Co-op, we've seen them jump at the chance to eat nutritiously and stretch their budget.

Let's use SB-98 to double up state and federal dollars and spread the health.

Thank you,

Allan Reetz 603-643-2667, Ext. 2871 areetz@coopfoodstore.com

Nourish. Cultivate. Cooperate.

Kirsten Koch

From:

Mark Meess <1nhmoose@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, February 1, 2021 4:47 PM

To:

Kirsten Koch

Good afternoon, I'm writing to indicate my strong support of SB 98.. Thanks! Mark Meess, 59 Greenwood Ave, Keene, NH 03431



American Heart Association 2 Wali Street | Manchester, NH 03101

February 3, 2021

Senate Health and Human Services Committee
Re: SB 98-FN; An act relative to the SNAP incentive program

Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee;

The American Heart Association (AHA) is strongly in support of the state implementing an incentive program to encourage increased purchase and consumption of fruits and vegetables by participants of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). I thank the bill sponsor and co-sponsors for bringing SB 98 forward to leverage federal dollars to improve the nutrition of New Hampshire's most vulnerable citizens by increasing access to healthy food. Good nutrition is critical for a person's health and general wellbeing. Studies have shown increasing consumption of fruits and vegetables can reduce the risk for heart disease and type 2 diabetes.

Nearly two-thirds of SNAP beneficiaries are children, elderly & disabled individuals.1 American children in general have less than ideal diets, the majority of their calories coming from sugary drinks and simple carbohydrates. It is estimated that one in three children born after 2000 will develop adult onset diabetes in his or her lifetime. An incentive program would help families stretch their benefits so they can buy fruits and vegetables, enabling children in families participating in SNAP to have a more nutritious diet, learn healthy behaviors and establish lifelong habits that will support their overall health and wellness.

States which have implemented a doubling of SNAP benefits through incentive programs call it a triple win because low-income families eat more healthy foods, area farmers gain new customers and receive an economic boost, and more of those dollars remain local, stimulating economic activity and opportunity in low-wealth communities.

A review by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities found that low-income adults participating in SNAP have lower overall health care expenditures and Medicaid/Medicare costs, compared to non-participants.² Surveys show that there is broad stakeholder support for policies that align SNAP purchases with broader health goals to improve diets and reduce food insecurity.³

Studies have found that incentives may lead to longer-term behavior change. A 2013 study found that participants who received a 50% discount on fruits and vegetables purchased more than 3 times as much, which translates into 50% more fruits and vegetables than those who did not receive the discount. The participants who received the incentive continued to report eating more fruits and vegetables four weeks after the discount program ended. A 2017 study found that providing education

about incentives increased their use and led to greater reported fruit and vegetable intake two months after the incentive program ended.4

The AHA suggests funding for the incentive program to be \$200,000 annually to adequately fund the program. We understand this is a difficult budget year, but the need of those depending on SNAP and the return on investment of this program would make the appropriation worthwhile.

I urge the committee to pass SB 98 and help create a healthy food environment for NH's most vulnerable citizens. Thank you and please consider me as a resource to you.

Submitted By:

Nancy Vaughan
Director of Government Relations, NH
American Heart Association

Nancy.vaughan@heart.org; 603-566-5658

- 1. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service. Characteristics of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Households: Fiscal Year 2016. November 2017. https://fins-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/ops/Characteristics2016.pdf.
- 2. Carlson S, Keith-Jennings B. SNAP is Linked with Improved Nutritional Outcomes and Lower Health Care Costs. Center on Budget and Policy, Priorities, 2018. https://www.cbpp.org/sites/default/files/atoms/files/1-17-18fa.pdf.
- 3. Leung CW, Musicus AA, Willett WC, Rimm EB. Improving the nutritional impact of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: perspectives from the participants. Am J Prev Med. 2017; 52(2S2):5193-S198, doi: 10.1016/j.amepre.2016.07.024.

Blumenthal SJ, Hoffinagle EE, Leung CW, et al. Strategies to improve the dietary quality of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) beneficiaries: an assessment of stakeholder opinions, Public Health Nutr. 2014; 17(12):2824-33, doi: 10.1017/S1368980013002942.

Leung CW, Hoffinagle EE, Lindsay AC, et al. A qualitative study of diverse experts' views about barriers and strategies to improve the diets and health of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) beneficiaries. J Acad Nutr Diet. 2013; 113(1):70-6, doi: 10.1016/j. jand.2012.09.018.

4. Geliebter A, Ang IY, Bernales-Korins M, et al. Supermarket discounts of low-energy density foods: effects on purchasing, food intake, and body weight. Obesity. 2013; 21(12):E542-8, doi: 10.1002/oby.20484.

Cohen AJ, Richardson CR2, Heisler M3, et al. Increasing use of a healthy food incentive: A waiting room intervention among low-income patients. Am J Prev Med. 2017; 52(2):154-162, doi: 10.1016/j.amepre.2016.11.008.

Kirsten Koch

From:

Birgitta McAlevey

birgittamcalevey@me.com>

Sent:

Monday, February 1, 2021 5:18 PM

То:

Kirsten Koch

Subject:

SB-98

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. Snap incentive programs are important for New Hampshire families and the economy. These programs allow SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets.

This is important to New Hampshire because it supports a healthy triple bottom line -(1) more healthy food for families, (2) better business for farmers, and (3) boost to local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

As a health and nutrition professional, I know firsthand the positive and important impacts of this program on the health and wellbeing of New Hampshire families, I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Sincerely,

B. McAlevey Swanzey, NH



February 3, 2020

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I am in support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. These programs allow SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets. This gives NH Farmers an opportunity to access federal SNAP dollars, which traditionally are spent on food-produced either outside of NH or in many cases grown outside the US.

In 2011 we started offering SNAP incentives at three farmers markets. Now SNAP incentives are offered at 49 direct to consumer venues and 18 independent retailers, increasing access to fresh fruit and vegetables to SNAP customers throughout the state. This number of venues continues to grow monthly, with more farm stands and markets signing on.

In 2020 the use of the Granite State Market Match incentive program increased 22%, this increase is constant across every county in the state. Over 3000 SNAP households utilized the program to purchase fresh NH grown fruits and vegetables.

I know firsthand the positive and important impacts of this program on the health and wellbeing of New Hampshire families. As an example, a SNAP customer from the North Country expressed "it has been a struggle to fulfill the need for fresh produce on a shoe string budget. Words can not express my gratitude for the Market Match program that is now provided to SNAP customers like me. It has really changed my life in such a positive way."

I have collected data from farmers at the end of markets that have had 10% of their daily sales be in SNAP and Incentives, making it possible for them to then hire another employee and continuing that chain of local spending and investment. In the past year, when shutdowns changed everything, I worked with farms across the state to get them set up to accept SNAP. It is important to NH farmers to still be able to offer these important programs to their local community. This is important to New Hampshire because it makes healthy food more accessible for families, gives NH Farmers additional customers, and boosts the local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families. I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

If I can answer any questions for you about the Granite State Market Match or Double Up Food Bucks programs please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

Brendan Cornwell

New Hampshire Nutrition Incentive Network Coordinator

~ ~ C /

New Hampshire Food Bank bcornwell@nhfoodbank.org





SNAPINCENTIUES IN NEWHAMPSHIRE

SNAP Incentives (also known as nutrition incentives), incentivize SNAP shoppers to purchase additional fruits and vegetables. In NH, when shoppers purchase fresh produce using their SNAP dollars, they receive a match of fruits and vegetables, dollar for dollar.

NH Currently offers incentives through two programs: Granite State Market Match (GSMM) and Double Up Food Bucks (DUFB)

GSMM: 49 farmers markets and farm stands throughout the state

DUFB: 18 independently owned retail stores

Over 8000 SNAP households participated in an incentive program in NH in 2020

Granite State Market Match: \$95,870. This is a 22.1% increase in redemptions over 2019.

Double Up Food/Bucks: \$130,275. This is a 57% increase in redemptions over 2019.

2020 Increasing Demand

www.doubleupnh.org www.granitestatemarketmatch.org

SNAP Incentives provide a triple win for the Granite State:



More money flowing in the local economy



Health benefits for our most vulnerable populations



New opportunities for local farmers









Kirsten Koch

From: Elizabeth A Trought batrought@gmail.com

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:38 PM

To: Kirsten Koch Subject: Support SB 98

We support Senate Bill 98 which directs the Department of Health and Human Services to implement SNAP incentive programs. This includes dollar for dollar match for fresh fruits and vegetables, with emphasis on locally-grown including:

farmer's markets and food stands community supported agriculture sites and other food retailers.

Elizabeth & William Trought 188 Streeter Woods Road Dorchester, NH 03266

Kirsten Koch

From:

Sherry Gould <sherrygould@tds.net>

Sent:

Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:55 PM

To:

Kirsten Koch

Subject:

SB 98

I signed up in support of SB 98 for the hearing tomorrow. I do not wish to speak, I simply wanted to indicate my support of the bill.

Sherry Gould
Tribal Genealogist
Nulhegan Band of Coosuk Abenaki
Department of Cultural and Historic Preservation
3210 State Route 114
Bradford, NH 03221
603 938-2613



4 Park Street, 4th Floor Concord, NH 03301 603.228.2983 | info@nhpha.org www.nhpha.org

February 3, 2021

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

My name is Tiffany Dodier and I am a registered dietitian speaking on behalf of the New Hampshire Public Health Association, a statewide membership organization composed of healthcare and public health professionals. For the last 25 years, we have advocated for policies that improve the health of New Hampshire's people.

Today we submit this testimony on behalf of our members and partners to state our strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. we strongly believe that passage of this bill will provide families in the SNAP program with the opportunity to purchase additional healthy fruits and vegetables which will contribute to better nutrition and overall health.

Since the outset of the pandemic I have volunteered and worked in task forces and coalitions that have desperately tried to figure out how to feed those that have fallen on hard times in NH. Those needing this emergency assistance, for perhaps the first time in their lives, find themselves feeding canned beans, white rice, white bread, and maybe some canned corn or green beans, to their hungry families. There is an awful lot of white or gray things in this list, typical food pantry staples, right? But hunger is not always the issues. Things like IQ, immunity, child behavior, and meeting those infant milestones that every mother obsesses about are just a few of the things affected by diet quality.

Diet quality is about how well your diet can nourish your body or the amount of nutrients that you consume in your food every day. We have all been told the importance of fruits and vegetables in our diet to provide important vitamins and minerals but nutrition research is booming with new studies about antioxidants, phytochemicals, and all kinds of other beneficial compounds found in fruits and vegetables that we have yet to discover. Mounds of research show the protective effect of fruits and vegetables from the risk of death for a plethora of diseases; as the number of servings goes up, the number of deaths goes down. In fact, an estimated 100,000 deaths occur from eating too few fruits and vegetables every year.

AR official association of APHA

AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

En winner for action for bodility.

Study after study in cities across America show an increase in servings of fruits and vegetables by SNAP incentive participants, some by as many as five servings per day. On top of more healthy food for Granite Staters, this bill betters business for farmers, and boosts the local economy. Passing this bill will strengthen the *nutrition* in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program while making our Federal SNAP dollars go further and work smarter.

Because I know firsthand the positive and important impacts of this program on the health and wellbeing of New Hampshire families, I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Dødier, MS, RD

NH Public Health Association

Co-facilitator of the NH Food Access Coalition

Email: tiffanydodier@nhpha.org

The Sustainability Project Inc.

The Emerson Brook Forest Outdoor Center
P.O. Box 311

57 Emerson Brook Drive
Gilsum, N.H. 03448

603-209-7272

www.emersonbrookforest.org
"For a future we can live with"

Board of Directors:

Pablo Fleischmann
Betsy Jane
Skot Jervis
Lenoir Law
Valerie Piedmont
Robert Willard

February 1, 2020

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Executive Director: Valerie Piedmont

Advisory Board:
Alisa Andrews
Dan Law
Taryn Fisher
Jill Robinson
Iris PiedmontFleischmann
Jeanne Sable
Tom Sintros
Judith Schwartz

Dave Wichland

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. Snap incentive programs are important for New Hampshire families and the economy. These programs allow SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets.

This is important to New Hampshire because it supports a healthy triple bottom line -(1) more healthy food for families, (2) better business for farmers, and (3) boost to local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

As the director of The Sustainability Project, a 501(c)3 nonprofit promoting a love of nature, environmental stewardship and caring communities, I urge the Committee to recommend the passage of SB 98-FN.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Piedmont 26 Emerson Brook Drive Gilsum, NH 03448 www.emersonbrookforest.org 603-209-7272

Griffin Roberge

From: Kirsten Koch

Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2021 8:21 AM

To: Griffin Roberge

Subject: FW: Sb 98 - FN Testimony in Support - New Futures Kids Count -

Attachments:

Sb 98_ written testimony NF KC.pdf; EJM Letter of Support.pdf; 2021 GSMM

Support.docx; 2021 Letter of Support SNAP.docx; 2021 Snap Letter of Support
Senate.docx; 2021 Snap Letter of Support_NHHungerSolutions.docx.pdf; 2021 Snap

Letter of Support_Senate (1).docx; 2021 Snap Letter of Support_Senate Maria Smith.pdf;

2021 Snap Letter of Support_Senate RFM.docx; 2021 Snap Letter of

Support_Senate.docx; 2021 Snap Letter of Support_Senate.pdf; 2021 Snap Letter of Support_Senate-GNFC.pdf; 2021 Snap Letter of Support-Senate (1).docx; FFN_Letter of Support_FFN_signed (2021).pdf; Gleaner.pdf; Monadnock Food Coop.pdf; MSF-2021 Snap Letter of Support_Senate.pdf; MSF-2021 Snap Letter of Support_Senate_steve.pdf; NH SNAP 2021 Bill_HC of the Upper Valley.docx.pdf; NOFA-NH 2021 Snap Letter of Support_Senate.pdf; SB 98-FN Letter of Support '21.pdf; Shopper.pdf; SNAP NH SB 98-

FN 2021.docx; Support for SB 98-FN.pdf; Doctor Fontaine Support .pdf

Kirsten Koch Legislative Aide New Hampshire Senate

From: Rebecca Woitkowski <rwoitkowski@new-futures.org>

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 8:06 PM

To: Kirsten Koch <kirsten.koch@leg.state.nh.us>

Subject: Sb 98 - FN Testimony in Support - New Futures Kids Count -

Ms Koch,

Attached please find the written testimony for New Futures in Support of SB 98- FN. In addition to my testimony is over 20 letters of support from NH advocates, retailers, participants, and others who support the bill and requested I pass along their letters of support with my testimony.

If you have any questions - please let me know.

Thank you

Rebecca Woitkowski, Esq.

She/Her/Hers
Kids Count Policy Coordinator

New Futures Kids Count

100 North Main Street, 4th Floor | Concord, NH
(603) 225-9540 x128

NewFuturesNH | @NewFuturesNH

newfutures KIDS COUNT

February 2, 2021

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN - relative to SNAP incentive programs.

Dear Honorable Committee Members,

New Futures appreciates the opportunity to testify in favor of SB 98-FN, relative to the SNAP incentive programs. New Futures is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that advocates, educates, and collaborates to improve the health and wellness of all New Hampshire residents. As New Hampshire's authorized Kids Count organization, New Futures also advocates for data-based policies that support Granite State families.

New Futures stands strongly in support of SB 98-FN as it aims to increase access to healthy fruits and vegetables to our most vulnerable children and families. Research has shown that the impact of certain adversity, including poverty, in early childhood negatively impacts lifelong health outcome and increases state costs¹. SNAP incentive programs compact the negative health and life impacts of poverty. Incentive programs allow recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at participating grocery stores and farmers markets. Thus, increasing access to nutritious foods that would otherwise be out of reach for these families.

Beyond access, SNAP incentive programs also foster a sense of community and relationship with local producers and grocers that has positive impacts that ripple out beyond food and nutrition concerns. SNAP incentive programs support a healthy triple bottom line by increasing access to healthy food for families, increasing business for farmers, and providing a boost to local economy.

The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families. Included with my testimony are over 20 letters of support from participants, retailers, farmers, and advocates across the state. I encourage the committee to read all of the included letters as they are a powerful statement of local support for this bill.

For these reasons, New Futures urges the committee to vote SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Reboson Wolten

Rebecca Woitkowski, Esq, Kids Count Policy Coordinator New Futures

¹ http://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/apps/phl/resource_center_infographic.html

February 2, 2021
The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley
Senate Health and Human Services Committee
State House
Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. Snap incentive programs are important for New Hampshire families and the economy. These programs allow SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets.

This is important to New Hampshire because it supports a healthy triple bottom line -(1) more healthy food for families, (2) better business for farmers, and (3) boost to local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

I have witnessed the benefits firsthand, not only as a former vendor with the Downtown Concord Winter Farmers Market (DCWFM) and the Summer Concord Farmers Market, but as the current Treasurer and seat on the Board of Directors for DCWFM. I cannot think of a better way to not only further support our local farmers and our local economies, but to support those who are less fortunate and in dire need of daily essentials.

Because I know the immediate, positive and important impacts of this program on the health and wellbeing of New Hampshire families, I urge the Committee to recommend the passing of SB 98-FN.

Respectfully submitted,

Erik J. Malouin
Treasurer DCWFM











February 1, 2021

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. Snap incentive programs are important for New Hampshire families and the economy. These programs allow SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets.

This is important to New Hampshire because it supports a healthy triple bottom line -(1) more healthy food for families, (2) better business for farmers, and (3) boost to local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

The Cheshire County Conservation District is the regional lead for the Granite State Market Match program in Cheshire County NH. We work with five farmers markets, two farm stands, and six community supported agriculture farms to improve access to healthy food through the Granite State Market Match program. This program brings new customers and a critical increase in sales to local farm businesses. It is a win-win for NH improving the health of our communities and viability of agricultural businesses.

Because I know firsthand the positive and important impacts of this program on the health and wellbeing of New Hampshire families, I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda J.C. Littleton District Manager.

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. Snap incentive programs are important for New Hampshire families and the economy. These programs allow SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets.

This is important to New Hampshire because it supports a healthy triple bottom line -(1) more healthy food for families, (2) better business for farmers, and (3) boost to local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

As a person in recovery from alcoholism and drug addiction for over 35 years, I am intimately involved in the lives of many recovering women, many of whom are raising children on their own. One of the first items I suggest women to do (after 30 days of detox) is to sign up for SNAP benefits (if eligible) and to sign up for Granite State Market Match (here in NH; doubling of vegetable and fruit purchasing). It is always amazing to me to that so many of these women have never (and I do mean never) tasted fresh raspberries, a butternut squash, or a non-canned tomato.

As the director of Monadnock Farm and Community Coalition in SW New Hampshire, a 140-member organization coalition, I can tell you that SNAP incentives impact the health of the children of our communities in ways we are now beginning to measure. If you care about bringing down healthcare costs, INVEST in our children/family's health by supporting the SNAP incentive program. If you need testimony from individuals, I would be happy to get as many as you need together to represent their experience.

Because I know firsthand the positive and important impacts of this program on the health and wellbeing of New Hampshire families, I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Roe-Ann Tasoulas
Recovering alcoholic 35+ years and
Director, Monadnock Farm and Community Coalition, New Hampshire

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. Snap incentive programs are important for New Hampshire families and the economy. These programs allow SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets.

This is important to New Hampshire because it supports a healthy triple bottom line -(1) more healthy food for families, (2) better business for farmers, and (3) boost to local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

During the pandemic many of our hospital staff found themselves in a position they had never been in before. To protect staff and the public, departments were temporarily closed leaving over 300 employees furloughed, some partially and some fully. Many staff were left needing to rely on resources such as food pantries and SNAP benefits. Working in healthcare, our staff know the importance of proper nutrition and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. The SNAP incentive program helps individuals to access healthy foods that fuel their bodies, helping them to achieve their healthcare goals and lead more productive lives.

Because I know firsthand the positive and important impacts of this program on the health and wellbeing of New Hampshire families, I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Collins Manager – Mission Integration St. Joseph Hospital - Nashua

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. SNAP incentive programs are important for New Hampshire families and our economy. These programs allow SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets.

This is important to New Hampshire because it supports a healthy triple bottom line: (1) more healthy food for families, (2) better business for farmers, and (3) boost to the local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

SNAP benefits are insufficient to meet family needs in New Hampshire. The Urban Institute compared average SNAP benefits per meal to actual meal costs in NH and found them to be 40-51% lower depending on where you live in New Hampshire.

https://www.urban.org/does-snap-cover-cost-meal-your-county. COVID-19 has caused food costs to rise even more. SB 98-FN extends SNAP recipients' dollars for healthy fruits and vegetables and are a critical support at this time of severe need.

I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Milliken
Executive Director,
NH Hunger Solutions
lmilliken@nhhungersolutions.org
18 Loudon Rd #3477
Concord, NH 03302
(M) 603.731.8191
(O) 603.225.2264

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. Snap incentive programs are important for New Hampshire families and the economy. These programs allow SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets.

This is important to New Hampshire because it supports a healthy triple bottom line -(1) more healthy food for families, (2) better business for farmers, and (3) boost to the local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

I know this to be true from personal experience, not only as someone on a tight budget who values healthy food, but also from serving on the Farmer's Market board. I've seen what a challenge it is to make a living as a farmer. It's difficult to find the balance between selling at a price that people can afford while also earning a living wage. A criticism of farmer's markets is that they are too expensive. Yet, these local foods should not be a luxury that only the middle to upper classes can afford. Healthy, local food should be available to everyone. Imagine how strong our local economy would be if a larger portion of the population shifted from buying groceries at the supermarket, and instead bought them from nearby farmers. Yet this will not happen on its own. We need changes like this initiative to keep the ball rolling in the right direction.

Because I know firsthand the positive and important impacts of this program on the health and wellbeing of New Hampshire families, I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaylin Lustig

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. Snap incentive programs are important for New Hampshire families and the economy. These programs allow SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets.

This is important to New Hampshire because it supports a healthy triple bottom line -(1) more healthy food for families, (2) better business for farmers, and (3) boost to local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

I currently serve as the Cooking Matters NH Program Coordinator at the New Hampshire Food Bank working to educate and empower SNAP eligible parents and families with cooking, nutrition and budgeting skills to make the most of their food dollars. I have also worked as the sales coordinator for one of the largest certified organic farms in the state (Brookford Farm). Due to my experiences in both sectors I am uniquely positioned to know how much of impactful. this program will be for our most vulnerable populations and struggling farmers.

In my work at the New Hampshire Food Bank I interact with SNAP families on a regular basis and sit near my co-worker as she submits SNAP applications. Time and time again we hear stories of parents, caregivers, adults and seniors not being able to feed themselves, and not even believing they have the means to eat healthy food and nourish their bodies properly. Sometimes we hear stories of a man who lost 30 pounds in one month due to lack of food, or stories of an unemployed mom of three facing eviction. We see the extremely long lines at Mobile Food Pantries and the smiles and appreciation on people's faces as they say this will be a lifesaver for the upcoming week. For these people, purchasing local food is unheard of. They do not even dare to hope to bite into a big ripe, red, juicy tomato mid-August, or taste the superior sweetness of apples from a local orchard during the fall – knowing they just cannot afford the higher price. Supporting this bill will give these people hope and break down the barrier and stigma of purchasing local foods for low income parents, caregivers, adults and seniors across the state.

On the other hand, local farmers always hear that folks cannot afford to eat or purchase from their farm because it is too expensive (while being in sales for a local farm I experienced this firsthand). Local farmers break their backs and go into debt to do the right thing; grow crops using sustainable practices to produce nutrient dense foods while respecting our lands and communities. Many times, farmers are asked for discounts and do not receive proper compensation for their food

or work. Making these healthier local foods more accessible and paying farmers fairly is a win win for our most vulnerable populations and for our local agricultural community and economy.

I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Smith Cooking Matters NH Coordinator New Hampshire Food Bank P: 603.669.9725 ext.1133 E: msmith@nhfoodbank.org

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley
Senate Health and Human Services Committee
State House
Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I am the manager of the Rochester NH Farmers Market. I am writing to you today to express my strong support of SB 98-FN as it impacts the SNAP incentive program. SNAP incentive programs are important for New Hampshire families and the economy. At our market this program allows SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables.

This program positively impacts residents and farmers in our state in three ways; it provides more healthy food for families, increases business for farmers, and it boosts our local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

During our 2020 market season we saw a 14% increase in the number of SNAP transactions at our market. More families were looking for ways to safely access local food. Each week we saw new faces at the SNAP table looking for information on how the incentive program worked. With the Market Match they were able to buy fresh local fruits and vegetables at half the cost to their EBT account. Not only did that increase the number of visits to the market but also increased sales for our small local farmers. In a time of uncertainty this weekly event became a connection point in our community for our EBT families and local farmers.

Because I know firsthand the positive and important impacts of this program on the health and wellbeing of New Hampshire families, I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicky Poland Market Manager Rochester Farmers Market January 29, 2021

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. Snap incentive programs are important for New Hampshire families and the economy. These programs allow SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets.

This is important to New Hampshire because it supports a healthy triple bottom line -(1) more healthy food for families, (2) better business for farmers, and (3) boost to local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

I personally use this program faithfully to make sure I utilize the funds I am given to recieve the nutrition my body needs as a breastfeeding mother. I appreciate that the benefits I am given also benefit others by giving back to other members of the community. I am a disabled veteran and am on limited income and appreciate that my funds are doubled in an area that matters most.

Because I know firsthand the positive and important impacts of this program on the health and wellbeing of New Hampshire families, I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Borrazas 603-233-6285 Nh2vi4fun@gmail.com 46 Spring St #10 Nashua, NH 03060

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. Snap incentive programs are important for New Hampshire families and the economy. These programs allow SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets.

This is important to New Hampshire because it supports a healthy triple bottom line -(1) more healthy food for families, (2) better business for farmers, and (3) boost to local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

Being the Market Manager for the Nashua Farmers Market, (which runs for a period of 17 weeks from June through October every year) we see an average of \$150 per week spent, which translates into \$300 through the SNAP program. This money gets put directly back into the market vendors, many of whom are farmers, makers, and craftspeople within the local economy.

Because I know firsthand the positive and important impacts of this program on the health and wellbeing of New Hampshire families, I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Annand
Program Coordinator
Great American Downtown
Nashua Farmers Market Manager
jenn@downtownnashua.org





Greater Nashua Food Council |603-748-9532| www.greaternashuafoodcouncil.org

February 3, 2020

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. Snap incentive programs are important for New Hampshire families and the economy. These programs allow SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets.

This is important to New Hampshire because it supports a healthy triple bottom line -(1) more healthy food for families, (2) better business for farmers, and (3) boost to local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

Through my work as Executive Director of Greater Nashua Food Council (GNFC) we have seen an immense need for access to fresh produce. Through a volunteer effort led by the United Way of Greater Nashua and GNFC 36 mobile produce pantries distributed 35,000 pounds of fresh produce in low-income communities. This effort served over 7,000 Nashua residents and continues to do so. This shows there is a desire from low-income community members to have access to fresh, affordable produce. Our membership also includes local farmers. These farmers rely on purchases from their SNAP customers. It has been shown in other studies, that every \$21,000 in SNAP creates a job in a community. Increasing SNAP incentives not only improves the health of NH residents, it also improves the health of NH's economy and local agriculture.

Because I know firsthand the positive and important impacts of this program on the health and wellbeing of New Hampshire families, I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Executive Director

Proved Graha

Greater Nashua Food Council jessica@gorhanconsulting.com

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. Snap incentive programs are important for New Hampshire families and the economy. These programs allow SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets.

This is important to New Hampshire because it supports a healthy triple bottom line -(1) more healthy food for families, (2) better business for farmers, and (3) boost to local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

I was bitten by a brown recluse spider and a tick August 2007. Since then I have dealt with Lyme, Babesia, and Bartonella infections. As part of the treatment and recovery I have worked towards, managing stress, exercising and eating healthy food.

The SNAP program has been an integral part of enabling me to eat healthy, local produce and meat year-round. During the slate summer months and into early fall, I preserve local veggies by home-canning, freezing and dehydrating. Over the last 15 years I have gotten to know the farmers through the Seacoast Eat Local Farmers Markets. It truly is a community.

A healthy community that is supportive, informative and dependable. My trust and respect for the farmers continues to grow. I am so appreciative of the SNAP benefits which allow me to buy fresh local veggies and to participate in summer and winter CSA's.

I now test negative for all 3 tick borne diseases and I am actively working on building health. The SNAP program continues to support and enable me to live healthier than I otherwise would be able to.

Because I know firsthand the positive and important impacts of this program on the health and wellbeing of New Hampshire families, I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth M Mello Kingston, NH 03848



Re: SB 98-FN

Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

SNAP incentive programs are important for New Hampshire families and the economy. These programs allow SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets. This is important for New Hampshire because it supports a healthy triple bottom line: More healthy food for families, better business for farmers, and a boost for main street businesses.

These programs are even more critical now given the challenges posed by COVID-19. Across the country there has been a sharp increase in the use of nutrition programs by both adults and children, many for the first time. SNAP incentive programs help these people afford nourishing food in a targeted way.

Since 2017, Fair Food Network has been overseeing the Double Up Food Bucks program in New Hampshire. We've witnessed incredible growth in this program driven by the needs of the most vulnerable residents and the enthusiasm of hard-working grocery store owners to support their communities. What began as a pilot program in four stores has since expanded to 18 sites serving thousands of shoppers. We hope to see these number grow.

I respectfully urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN for passage in state budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Krauss

Executive Director & Chief Operating Officer

Fair Food Network

January 31, 2020

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley
Senate Health and Human Services Committee
State House
Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. Snap incentive programs are important for New Hampshire families and the economy. These programs allow SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets.

This is important to New Hampshire because it supports a healthy triple bottom line -(1) more healthy food for families, (2) better business for farmers, and (3) boost to local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

I have volunteered to participate in local gleaning events in Cheshire county. I know that the food we harvest gets into the hands of many families in the Monadnock area who may not have the resources to acquire these goods. Many of these families can use SNAP dollars to obtain these products at local farmers markets.

Because I know firsthand the positive and important impacts of this program on the health and wellbeing of New Hampshire families, I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

David Bacon

Keene, NH

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. Snap incentive programs are important for New Hampshire families and the economy. These programs allow SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets.

This is important to New Hampshire because it supports a healthy triple bottom line -(1) more healthy food for families, (2) better business for farmers, and (3) boost to local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

Double Up Food Bucks has been a huge success in our Co-op. Not only does the program allow our customers to stretch their dollars, it has allowed us to better support our local farmers. We have seen large increases in SNAP spending on produce and our purchases from local farms have increased in tandem. Overall I feel Double Up Food Bucks is important for the nutritional health of our community as well as the economic health of our local producers

Because I know firsthand the positive and important impacts of this program on the health and wellbeing of New Hampshire families, I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Cotter

Assistant Store Manager

Monadnock Food Co-op



Miles Smith Farm 56 Whitehouse Rd Loudon, NH 03307 milessmithfarm.com 603 783 5159

February 3, 2021

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. Snap incentive programs are important for New Hampshire families and the economy. These programs allow SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets.

Miles Smith Farm believes that this program provides healthy food for families, increases revenue for farmers, and boosts the local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

Miles Smith Farm is a 36 acre farm in Loudon, New Hampshire. The 36 acres combines part of a farm owned by Miles Smith in the 1850's and two neighboring farms. Most of the land is pasture. The cattle we raise are grass fed on the farm's and about 300 acres we lease around the state. All of our cattle are raised in the state of New Hampshire, so our meat is truly from New Hampshire.

Because I know firsthand the positive and important impacts of this program on the health and well being of New Hampshire families, I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole Soule



NORTHEAST ORGANIC FARMING ASSOCIATION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

84 Silk Farm Road Concord, NH 03301 (603) 224-5022 info@nofanh.org www.nofanh.org

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Operations Manager Nikki Kolb February 2, 2021

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. Snap incentive programs are important for New Hampshire families and the economy. These programs allow SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets.

This is important to New Hampshire because it supports a healthy triple bottom line: (1) more healthy food for families, (2) better business for farmers, and (3) boost to local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

NOFA-NH helps people build local, sustainable, healthy food systems. Supporting the SNAP incentive program is consistent with our mission: it helps both farmers and consumers by strengthening the local food system, and provides access to fresh nutritious food for our state's food insecure.

Because I know firsthand the positive and important impacts of this program on the health and wellbeing of New Hampshire families, I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Nikki Kolb

NOFA-NH Operations Manager



The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program.

SNAP outreach is an integral part of the New Hampshire Food Bank's mission to provide food resources to those who are struggling to provide food for themselves and their families. In conjunction with providing food access resources, such as SNAP benefit application assistance, accessing safe, healthy, equitable food is our top priority. The New Hampshire Food Bank has seen an uptick in requests for fresh produce from elders, parents of young kids, single adults, and college or high school aged students. It is important to us that we offer this opportunity to our community through the SNAP incentive program.

High prioritization to provide optimal nutrition for the health and wellbeing of our current and future population will benefit all aspects of our economy and health care system. SNAP incentives break socioeconomic barriers, increase exposure to healthy societal norms, and introduce cultural competence for all communities. Since 2011, Granite State Market Match has increased its participation by 51 additional sites in the state and plans to expand to retail locations in 2021. Ensuring all families have equal access to local fruits and vegetables increases our population health and in turn decreases medical costs. Snap incentive sales have grown exponentially over the years and to continue this important work we need support from the state.

This work does not only benefit the food insecure. Our NH farmers can now access a demographic that previously had not been a revenue stream. By opening this market to our food insecure, local farmers have the opportunity to thrive.

I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Elise Bolster, RD, LDN

Nutrition Programs Manager New Hampshire Food Bank





The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program.

Allowing SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets has real benefits for the resilience of Granite Staters. It means more access to healthy food for families, better business for farmers, and a more viable local economy. These programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

I have worked hard to keep my family housed and healthy despite an adverse economy, challenging climate, and community breakdown. SNAP and especially Granite State Market Match have been absolutely vital to my ability to support not only my family but also our neighboring farms and local businesses. This program makes New Hampshire stronger!

Because I know firsthand the positive and important impacts of this program on the health and wellbeing of New Hampshire families, I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Antrim, NH



The Community Kitchen 37 Mechanic Street, PO Box 1315 Keene, NH 03431

Tel: 603 352 3200

www.thecommunitykitchen.org

February 3, 2020

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. Snap incentive programs are important for New Hampshire families and the economy. These programs allow SNAP recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets.

This is important to New Hampshire because it supports a healthy triple bottom line -(1) more healthy food for families, (2) better business for farmers, and (3) boost to local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

At The Community Kitchen, we have been working to bolster food security in southwestern NH for over 35 years. We find our recipients are knowledgeable and resourceful as they strive to prepare healthy meals for themselves and their families. When we are able to provide fresh, high quality products, especially as abundant fresh donations stock our tables in the harvest season, our guests express spontaneous delight and many are eager to try new recipes and entirely unfamiliar vegetables. The real barriers that NH's food insecure citizens experience to participating in our vibrant local food system are the relative financial costs of these products as they manage very tight food budgets. All NH citizens deserve to participate fully in our great local food system. We hope you will make this modest investment in our public health that will have many abundant returns.

Because I know firsthand the positive and important impacts of this program on the health and wellbeing of New Hampshire families, I urge the Committee to recommend SB 98-FN ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Phoebe Bray

Phoebe Bray Executive Director

Kirsten Koch

From:

Angela Zhang <Angela@listencs.org> Wednesday, February 3, 2021 6:48 PM

Sent: To:

Kirsten Koch

Subject:

Support for SB 89-FN

February 3, 2021

The Honorable Chair, Jeb Bradley Senate Health and Human Services Committee State House Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 98-FN

Dear Chairman Bradley and Members of the Committee,

My name is Angela Zhang, and I am the Programs Director at LISTEN Community Services, a nonprofit which services the critical needs of the New Hampshire constituents within the lower Grafton County/Upper Valley region. I am in charge of overseeing all of our social services, including our food pantry, rental assistance, and utility assistance.

I write in strong support of SB 98-FN relative to the SNAP incentive program. SNAP incentive programs allow recipients to receive a dollar match on fresh fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers markets. These programs are critical to the welfare of many New Hampshire families who struggle with financial security and to the prosperity of the state economy.

This is important to New Hampshire because it supports a healthy triple bottom line - (1) more healthy food for families, (2) better business for farmers, and (3) boost to local economy. The positive impacts of these programs are even more critical given the challenges COVID-19 has placed on families.

We at LISTEN Community Services need not look far to see the pressing need for these SNAP incentive programs, especially amidst this pandemic. Since March of 2020, the LISTEN community food pantry has filled 3,390 orders of food for over 900 households, who are struggling to provide enough nutritious food for their families. Nearly two-thirds of those households have never sought help from LISTEN before.

Furthermore, our reports find that the increasing number of New Hampshire residents requesting assistance from our food pantry has been correlated to the economic difficulties posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. In March 2020, there were layoffs across the country due to the initial shut down; in July 2020, Pandemic Unemployment Benefits ended at the end of the month; and December 2020 CARES Act assistance expired – each of these events translated to a direct increase in the number of New Hampshire households that required assistance from our food pantry. Families urgently need more supportive measures, like SNAP incentive programs, in order to make ends meet.

Our food pantry is but a microcosm of the need for accessible, nutritious food across the state. New Hampshire residents need SB 98-FN, and that is why we implore the Committee to recommend that SB 98-FN ought to pass.

On behalf of LISTEN Community Services and the Upper Valley residents whom we serve, thank you for your time and support.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Zhang

Angela Zhang, MSW
LISTEN Community Services – Program Services Director
603.448.4553 x1009 | Angela@listencs.org
60 Hanover St | Lebanon, NH 03766-1228

Voting Sheets

Senate Health and Human Services Committee

EXECUTIVE SESSION RECORD

2021-2022 Session

Hearing Date: $\frac{2/3/21}{}$		Bill#	B 98-1		
Executive Session Date: $2/3/2$					
Motion: OTP		Vo	te: <u>5</u> -0		
Committee Member	Present	Made by	Second	Yes No	
Sen. Bradley, Chair					
Sen. Gray, Vice Chair					water
Sen. Ayard	_,				أح
Sen. Sherman	<u>\</u>	<u> </u>			
Sen. Whitley	<u> </u>				<u> </u>
Motion: CONSENT COVERNOUS		Vo	te: 5-0		
Committee Member	Present	Made by	Second	Yes No	1
Sen. Bradley, Chair	·, X				
Sen. Gray, Vice Chair	\square				· maggar Afficia (PC
Sen. Avard		\overline{N}			11 11 12
Sen. Sherman	\boxtimes			\square	
Sen. Whitley					
	Drogont	Vo		Vos No	
Committee Member	Present	Made by	Second	Yes No	===0.
Committee Member Sen. Bradley, Chair		Made by		Yes No	
Committee Member Sen. Bradley, Chair Sen. Gray, Vice Chair		Made by	Second	Yes No	
Committee Member Sen. Bradley, Chair Sen. Gray, Vice Chair Sen. Avard		Made by	Second	Yes No	
Committee Member Sen. Bradley, Chair Sen. Gray, Vice Chair Sen. Avard Sen. Sherman		Made by	Second	Yes No	The same of the sa
Committee Member Sen. Bradley, Chair Sen. Gray, Vice Chair Sen. Avard		Made by	Second	Yes No	The state of the s
Committee Member Sen. Bradley, Chair Sen. Gray, Vice Chair Sen. Avard Sen. Sherman Sen. Whitley		Made by	Second		The second secon
Committee Member Sen. Bradley, Chair Sen. Gray, Vice Chair Sen. Avard Sen. Sherman Sen. Whitley Motion: Committee Member		Made by	Second Control Cont		
Committee Member Sen. Bradley, Chair Sen. Gray, Vice Chair Sen. Avard Sen. Sherman Sen. Whitley Motion: Committee Member Sen. Bradley, Chair		Made by	Second Control Cont		
Committee Member Sen. Bradley, Chair Sen. Gray, Vice Chair Sen. Avard Sen. Sherman Sen. Whitley Motion: Committee Member Sen. Bradley, Chair Sen. Gray, Vice Chair	Present	Made by	Second Control Cont		
Committee Member Sen. Bradley, Chair Sen. Gray, Vice Chair Sen. Avard Sen. Sherman Sen. Whitley Motion: Committee Member Sen. Bradley, Chair Sen. Gray, Vice Chair Sen. Avard	Present	Made by	Second Control Cont		
Committee Member Sen. Bradley, Chair Sen. Gray, Vice Chair Sen. Avard Sen. Sherman Sen. Whitley Motion: Committee Member Sen. Bradley, Chair Sen. Gray, Vice Chair Sen. Avard Sen. Avard Sen. Sherman	Present	Made by	Second Control Cont		
Committee Member Sen. Bradley, Chair Sen. Gray, Vice Chair Sen. Avard Sen. Sherman Sen. Whitley Committee Member Sen. Bradley, Chair Sen. Gray, Vice Chair Sen. Avard Sen. Avard Sen. Sherman Sen. Whitley	Present	Made by	Second Control Cont		
Sen. Bradley, Chair Sen. Gray, Vice Chair Sen. Avard Sen. Sherman Sen. Whitley Motion: Committee Member Sen. Bradley, Chair Sen. Gray, Vice Chair Sen. Avard Sen. Sherman	Present	Made by	Second Control Cont		
Committee Member Sen. Bradley, Chair Sen. Gray, Vice Chair Sen. Avard Sen. Sherman Sen. Whitley Motion: Committee Member Sen. Bradley, Chair Sen. Gray, Vice Chair Sen. Avard Sen. Sherman Sen. Sherman Sen. Whitley	Present	Made by	Second Control Cont		

Senate Finance Committee EXECUTIVE SESSION

. /.	Bill # 58 98-FN
Hearing date: $\frac{\mathcal{N}/\mathcal{H}}{\mathcal{H}}$,
Executive session date: 02/16/2/	
Executive session date:	>
Motion of:	VOTE: /-D
Made by Daniels	Reported Daniels
Senator: Reagan by Senator: Reagan	by Senator: Reagan 🔲 🕤
Giuda 🗌 Giuda 🔲	Giuda 🗌
Rosenwald 🗆 Rosenwald 🗆	/ Rosenwald 🗌
D'Allesandro 🗆 D'Allesandro 🛂	D'Allesandro 🗌
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Motion of:	VOTE:
Made by Daniels Seconded Daniels	Reported Daniels
Senator: Reagan by Senator: Reagan	by Senator: Reagan
Giuda Giuda Giuda	Giuda
Rosenwald Argument Rosenwald	Rosenwald
D'Allesandro D'Allesandro	
	D'Allesandro 🔲
Morse ☐ Morse ☐	Morse □
Hennessey \square Hennessey \square	Hennessey \square
Committee Member Present Yes	No Reported out by
Senator Daniels, Chairman	
Senator Reagan, Vice-Chair,	
Senator Giuda	
Senator Hennessey Senator Rosenwald	
Senator Morse	
Senator D'Allesandro	
Amendments:	
	
Notes:	

Committee Report

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SENATE

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE CONSENT CALENDAR

Thursday, February 4, 2021

THE COMMITTEE ON Health and Human Services

to which was referred SB 98-FN

AN ACT

relative to the SNAP incentive program.

Having considered the same, the committee recommends that the Bill

OUGHT TO PASS

BY A VOTE OF: 5-0

Senator Rebecca Whitley For the Committee

This bill requires the department of health and human services to establish a SNAP health incentive program and makes a \$150,000 appropriation to the department for this purpose. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) health incentive enables beneficiaries of the federal SNAP to receive a dollar-for-dollar match for fresh fruits and vegetables, with an emphasis on locally grown food, at participating farmer's markets, farm stands, mobile markets, community supported agriculture sites, grocery stores, or other participating direct food retailers. SNAP health incentive programs are a triple win for New Hampshire; it will boost the local economy, provide health benefits to recipients, and new opportunities for local farmers to sell their produce. Modest state investment will allow the state to draw down additional federal dollars to broaden access to the program.

Kirsten Koch 271-3266

FOR THE CONSENT CALENDAR

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

SB 98-FN, relative to the SNAP incentive program. Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0. Senator Rebecca Whitley for the committee.

This bill requires the department of health and human services to establish a SNAP health incentive program and makes a \$150,000 appropriation to the department for this purpose. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) health incentive enables beneficiaries of the federal SNAP to receive a dollar-for-dollar match for fresh fruits and vegetables, with an emphasis on locally grown food, at participating farmer's markets, farm stands, mobile markets, community supported agriculture sites, grocery stores, or other participating direct food retailers. SNAP health incentive programs are a triple win for New Hampshire; it will boost the local economy, provide health benefits to recipients, and new opportunities for local farmers to sell their produce. Modest state investment will allow the state to draw down additional federal dollars to broaden access to the program.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SENATE

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

THE COMMITTEE ON Finance

to which was referred SB 98-FN

AN ACT

relative to the SNAP incentive program.

Having considered the same, the committee recommends that the Bill

OUGHT TO PASS

BY A VOTE OF: 7-0

Senator Erin Hennessey For the Committee

Deb Martone 271-4980

Docket of SB98

Docket Abbreviations

Bill Title: relative to the SNAP incentive program.

Official Docket of SB98.:

Date	Body	Description
1/26/2021	S	<pre>Introduced 01/06/2021 and Referred to Health and Human Services; SJ 3</pre>
1/28/2021	S	Remote Hearing: 02/03/2021, 09:00 am; Links to join the hearing can be found in the Senate Calendar; SC 9
2/4/2021	S	Committee Report: Ought to Pass, 02/11/2021; Vote 5-0; CC; SC 10
2/11/2021	S	Sen. Whitley Moved to Remove SB 98-FN from the Consent Calendar; 02/11/2021; SJ 4
2/11/2021	S	Ought to Pass: RC 24Y-0N, MA; Refer to Finance Rule 4-5; 02/11/2021; SJ 4
3/4/2021	S	Committee Report: Ought to Pass, 03/04/2021; SC 12
3/4/2021	S	Ought to Pass: RC 24Y-0N, MA; OT3rdg; 03/04/2021; SJ 6
3/10/2021	Н	Introduced (in recess of) 02/25/2021 and referred to Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs HJ 4 P. 48
4/1/2021	Н	Vacated and Referred to Finance (Rep. Steven Smith): MA VV (in recess of) 02/25/2021 HJ 4
4/28/2021	н	Public Hearing: 05/10/2021 11:15 am Members of the public may attend using the following link: To join the webinar: https://www.zoom.us/j/92166004660 / Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day (time permitting) from the time the committee is initially convened.
5/4/2021	н	Division III Work Session: 05/10/2021 01:00 pm Members of the public may attend using the following link: To join the webinar: https://www.zoom.us/j/93701004543
5/13/2021	H	Retained in Committee
8/31/2021	Н	Division III Work Session: 09/08/2021 01:00 pm LOB 210-211
10/6/2021	Н	Executive Session: 10/26/2021 10:00 am LOB 210-211
10/20/2021	Н	Division III Work Session: 10/26/2021 09:00 am LOB 210-211
10/29/2021	Н	Committee Report: Inexpedient to Legislate SB 98-FN 10/28/2021 (Vote 21-0;) HC 48 P. 12
1/11/2022	н .	Inexpedient to Legislate: MA VV 01/05/2022 HJ 1

NH House	NH Senate

Other Referrals

Senate Inventory Checklist for Archives

Bill Number: 58 98-FN	Senate Committee: FINANCE - 2 N Committee
Please include all documents in the order listed below included with an "X" beside	and indicate the documents which have been
Final docket found on Bill Status	
Bill Hearing Documents: {Legislative Aides}	
Bill version as it came to the committee	
All Calendar Notices	
Hearing Sign-up sheet(s)	
Prepared testimony, presentations, & other sul	omissions handed in at the public hearing
Hearing Report	
Revised/Amended Fiscal Notes provided by the	Senate Clerk's Office
Committee Action Documents: {Legislative Aides	}
All amendments considered in committee (including th	ose not adopted):
amendment # amend	ment #
amendment # amend	ment #
Executive Session Sheet	
Committee Report	
Floor Action Documents: {Clerk's Office}	,
All floor amendments considered by the body during se	ssion (only if they are offered to the senate):
amendment # amend	ment #
amendment # amend	ment #
Post Floor Action: (if applicable) {Clerk's Office}	
	y all members. Include any new language proposed
Enrolled Bill Amendment(s)	
Governor's Veto Message	
All available versions of the bill: {Clerk's Office}	
as amended by the senate	as amended by the house
final version	·
Completed Committee Report File Delivered to the	he Senate Clerk's Office By:
Deb Martone	00/20/21
Committee Aide	Date
Sanata Clark's Office	

Senate Inventory Checklist for Archives

Bill Number: Senate Committee: 1415	
Please include all documents in the order listed below and indicate the documents which have been included with an "X" beside	
Final docket found on Bill Status	
Bill Hearing Documents: {Legislative Aides}	
Bill version as it came to the committee	
All Calendar Notices	
All Calendar Notices Hearing Sign-up sheet(s) Prepared testimony, presentations, & other submissions handed in at the public hearing Hearing Report	
Prepared testimony, presentations, & other submissions handed in at the public hearing	
Hearing Report	
Revised/Amended Fiscal Notes provided by the Senate Clerk's Office	
Committee Action Documents: {Legislative Aides}	
All amendments considered in committee (including those not adopted):	
amendment # amendment #	
amendment # amendment #	
Executive Session Sheet	
Committee Report	
Floor Action Documents: {Clerk's Office}	
All floor amendments considered by the body during session (only if they are offered to the senate):	
amendment # amendment #	
amendment # amendment #	
Post Floor Action: (if applicable) (Clerk's Office)	
Committee of Conference Report (if signed off by all members. Include any new language proby the committee of conference):	posed
Enrolled Bill Amendment(s)	
Governor's Veto Message	
All available versions of the bill: {Clerk's Office}	
as amended by the senate as amended by the house	
final version	
Completed Committee Report File Delivered to the Senate Clerk's Office By:	
Kirsten Koch 7/26121	
Committee Aide Date	
Senate Clerk's Office	