



S.F. No. 1858 – Healthy eating, here at home program transfer to the Department of Health provision, fresh bucks pilot program establishment, and appropriation

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SF 1858 moves the administration of the healthy eating, here at home program from the Minnesota Humanities Center to the Department of Health; adds the use of SUN bucks (Summer EBT) to the types of benefits that can be used in the program; creates a Fresh Bucks Pilot Program; and appropriates money for the healthy eating here at home program and the fresh bucks pilot program.

Section 1 [Establishment. 138.912, subd. 1] authorizes the commissioner of health to incentivize the use of SUN bucks (Summer EBT) in the healthy eating, here at home program.

Sections 2-5, 8, and 9 make technical changes to move the administration of the healthy eating, here at home program from the Minnesota Humanities Center to the Department of Health on July 1, 2025, and to allow the use of SUN bucks (Summer EBT) in the healthy eating, here at home program.

Section 6 [Fresh Bucks Pilot Program] establishes a pilot program through which eligible households may purchase produce using EBT cards at SNAP retailers. The program provides up to a \$20 match per day per household, capped at \$80 per month. The program is available until the appropriation is expended. The Department of Health selects a nonprofit organization to administer the program. This section lists administrative responsibilities for the nonprofit organization and specifies the criteria a retailer must meet to be eligible to participate in the program. This section requires a report by the commissioner of health to the legislature providing specified information.

Section 7 [Appropriations; Healthy Eating, Here at Home; Fresh Bucks Pilot Program] appropriates money in fiscal years 2026 and 2027 from the general fund to the commissioner of health for the healthy eating, here at home program and for the fresh bucks pilot program.

The appropriation for the fresh bucks pilot program is onetime and is available until January 1, 2028.

Section 10 [Repealer. 138.912, subd. 7] repeals a requirement for the commissioner of children, youth, and families to submit a waiver request to the federal United States Department of Agriculture to seek approval for the inclusion of Minnesota grocery stores in the health eating, here at home program, so that SNAP participants may use vouchers for health produce at grocery stores.



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