

# Increase the SNAP Minimum Benefit for Seniors

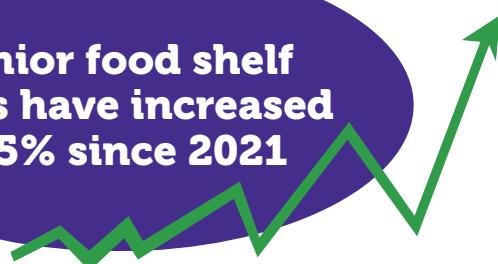
## HF/SF #

The current monthly minimum benefit level for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is just \$23 a month - far too low to provide the nutrition Minnesotans need to thrive. This amount must be adjusted to reflect the rising cost of groceries and ensure that everyone can put food on the table.

Older adults are among the most vulnerable to food insecurity, often living on fixed incomes while facing rising costs for essentials like food, housing, and medication. When SNAP benefits were slashed, many seniors were forced to make impossible choices—skipping meals to afford prescriptions or turning to food shelves for the first time.

No one should have to struggle to put food on the table, especially those who have contributed to our communities for a lifetime.

**Senior food shelf visits have increased 115% since 2021**



## The Solution

To meet the growing need, we are proposing to raise the current federal minimum SNAP benefit from \$23 to \$50 per month for seniors aged 60 and older. This critical policy change will strengthen the safety net for some of the most vulnerable in our state, providing them with greater access to nutritious food and reducing the burden of food insecurity.

## Expected Policy Outcomes Include:

- **Supporting vulnerable seniors and individuals with disabilities** who rely on SNAP benefits to maintain their health and well-being.
- **Boosting local food retailers** that have experienced decreased business following the end of SNAP emergency allotments.
- **Reducing food insecurity** for thousands of Minnesotans who are struggling to make ends meet.

By lifting the minimum benefit, we can make a tangible difference for those most in need. The time to act is now—let's ensure no senior in Minnesota goes without the nutrition they need to live with dignity.