

FISCAL NOTE

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)					
EXPENDITURES	GENERAL	CASH	FEDERAL	REVOLVING	TOTAL
FY2025-2026	0	0	0	0	0
FY2026-2027	0	0	0	0	0
FY2027-2028	0	0	0	0	0
FY2028-2029	0	0	0	0	0
REVENUE	GENERAL	CASH	FEDERAL	REVOLVING	TOTAL
FY2025-2026	0	0	0	0	0
FY2026-2027	0	0	0	0	0
FY2027-2028	0	0	0	0	0
FY2028-2029	0	0	0	0	0

Any Fiscal Notes received from state agencies and political subdivisions are attached following the Legislative Fiscal Analyst Estimate.

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to submit a waiver to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for refugees and immigrants. These populations lost eligibility nationwide following the passage of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. DHHS estimates 115 SNAP cases of this type have been denied or closed following the passage of OBBBA.

Administrative expenses to implement this policy can be absorbed by DHHS. Currently in Nebraska, SNAP benefits are 100% federally funded. This will continue to be true as long as the state's error rate remains under 6%. DHHS lists the match requirement for state funds for error rates above 6%. There is no basis upon which to disagree with the estimate of no fiscal impact.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY & POLT. SUB. RESPONSE

LB: 843	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services
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REVIEWED BY: Ann Linneman	DATE: 2-12-2026	PHONE: (402) 471-4180
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COMMENTS: Concur with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services' assessment of fiscal impact.
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ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

State Agency or Political Subdivision Name:(2) Department of Health and Human Services

Prepared by: (3) John Meals

Date Prepared 2-12-2026

Phone: (5) 471-6719

	FY 2026-2027		FY 2027-2028	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Return by date specified 72 hours prior to public hearing, whichever is earlier.

Explanation of Estimate:

LB843 would require the Office of Economic Assistance (OEA) to submit a waiver, on or before October 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to waive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) eligibility requirements for refugees and immigrants. This would restore SNAP eligibility to certain refugees and immigrants who previously lost eligibility due to the enactment of Section 10108 of Public Law 119-21, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. If the waiver is approved, OEA will see an increase in the number of applications from households with non-citizens.

Implementation of the bill would require staff time to draft and develop the waiver application. Updates need to be made to employee trainings, memos, and worker guides to include the changes in eligible refugees and immigrants. SNAP NAC regulations will also need to be updated. Current staff would absorb these costs.

Currently, SNAP benefits are paid using 100% Federal Funds and administrative costs are paid with 50% State General Funds and 50% Federal Funds. Effective October 1, 2026, administrative costs will be paid using 75% State General Funds and 25% Federal Funds.

Effective October 1, 2027, states will be required to pay at least a percentage of SNAP benefit allotments if they have a Quality Control Payment Error Rate (PER) above 6%.

- (1) Under 6% PER = 0% state match
- (2) 6-7.99% PER = 5% state match
- (3) 8-9.99% PER = 10% state match
- (4) 10%+ PER = 15% state match

The state implemented the new eligibility rules on October 20, 2025. Thus far, 115 SNAP cases have been denied or closed because the household no longer met eligibility requirements.

MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

PERSONAL SERVICES:

POSITION TITLE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS		2026-2027	2027-2028
	26-27	27-28	EXPENDITURES	EXPENDITURES
Benefits.....				
Operating.....				
Travel.....				

Capital Outlay.....
Aid.....
Capital Improvements.....
TOTAL.....

\$0	\$0