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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM-  
EDUCATION PROGRAM.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the federal  
2 supplemental nutrition assistance program-education (SNAP-Ed)  
3 program, active from 1992 until its discontinuation in 2025, was  
4 a critical, evidence-based program that directly improved the  
5 health and well-being of low-income families. SNAP-Ed provided  
6 essential nutrition education, promoted healthy eating, improved  
7 cooking and budgeting skills, and expanded access to nutritious  
8 foods.

9 The legislature further finds that SNAP-Ed program outcomes  
10 demonstrate positive impact, with ninety-one per cent of  
11 participants improving their diets, eighty-three per cent of  
12 participants gaining skills in meal planning and budgeting, and  
13 forty per cent reporting increased food affordability or  
14 sufficient food for their families. The SNAP-Ed program reduced  
15 food insecurity and risks of diet-related disease, delivering  
16 tangible benefits across communities.



1        The legislature additionally finds that the SNAP-Ed program  
2    also strengthened local food systems, supported schools and  
3    community organizations. Nutrition education also is a cost-  
4    effective investment that prevents illness, reduces long-term  
5    health spending, and strengthens families and communities.

6        The legislature notes that at the state level, the  
7    university of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human  
8    resilience and the department of health managed SNAP-Ed  
9    programs, which had a combined \$1,570,000,000 budget for 2025.  
10   However, the federal SNAP-Ed program has been eliminated from  
11   the federal budget, dismantling a proven, prevention-focused  
12   program at a time of rising food costs and escalating public  
13   health expenditures and leaving the future of the program at  
14   risk in the State and nationwide.

15       The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the  
16   university of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human  
17   resilience and the department of health to continue funding for  
18   the Hawaii supplemental nutrition assistance program-education  
19   program.

20       SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
21   revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                      or so



1 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for  
2 the university of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and  
3 human resilience to continue implementation of the Hawaii  
4 supplemental nutrition assistance program-education program.

5 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the university of  
6 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

7 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
9 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for  
10 the department of health to continue implementation of the  
11 Hawaii supplemental nutrition assistance program-education  
12 program.

13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
14 health for the purposes of this Act.

15 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



**Report Title:**

University of Hawaii; College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience; Department of Health; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education Program; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience and the Department of Health to continue their implementation of the Hawaii Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education Program. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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