



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CalFresh/SNAP Benefits to Dry Up Soon if Federal Government Shutdown Continues

SACRAMENTO, CA – California is warning that federal funds will not be available for SNAP/CalFresh beginning November 1 if the government shutdown is not resolved today, October 23.

“The longest and now second longest government shutdowns in U.S. history belong to our current President,” said Assemblymember Esmeralda Soria (D-Merced). *“Millions of Californians are at risk of losing essential food assistance — and we will not let that happen. We’ve invested millions in food banks and local resources to ensure no Californian goes hungry. We need to put people over politics. In the meantime, we’ve secured additional money to supplement efforts to keep our community fed.”*

This looming shutdown means 5.5 million parents, children, seniors and workers in California will lose food assistance dollars, making it harder to buy groceries and feed families heading into the holidays.

“This is not a drill. Trump’s government shutdown is literally taking food away from our kids,” said Speaker Robert Rivas (D-Salinas). *“But when Republicans fail to lead, Assembly Democrats, including Esmeralda Soria, will do everything in our power to help parents and seniors pay for groceries and celebrate the holidays, because it’s our job to fight for programs that put food on the table.”*

California Democrats allocated \$80 million to food banks during this year’s budget process, and Governor Newsom announced those funds will be fast-tracked.

Each day that the shutdown continues after Thursday, October 23, is an additional day that CalFresh benefits are potentially delayed for Californians. Since CalFresh is essentially fully funded by the federal government, this means **more than 5.5 million Californians are expected to lose benefits beginning November 1** (along with 42 million nationwide).



ESMERALDA SORIA
ASSEMBLYWOMAN, DISTRICT 27

PRESS RELEASE

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Assemblywoman Esmeralda Soria represents the 27th Assembly District, which includes communities in Fresno, Madera, and Merced counties.