



Tim Schaffer
20th District

Ohio Senate
Senate Building
Room 137, First Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 466-8076
sd20@ohiosenate.gov

Committees and Special Appointments:
Agriculture & Natural Resources, Chair
Armed Services, Veterans Affairs and Public Safety
Energy
Ohio Expositions Commission
Rules and Reference
Transportation, Vice Chair
Ways and Means

**Senate Workforce Development Committee
Senate Resolution 29 — Sponsor Testimony
Tuesday, March 25, 2025**

Chairman Koehler, Vice Chair Reynolds, Ranking Member Ingram, and members of the Senate Workforce Development Committee, thank you for the opportunity to present sponsor testimony on Senate Resolution 29.

This resolution asks the United States Congress to resume restoring stolen Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits and to implement anti-fraud measures in the SNAP program.

In recent years, SNAP EBT card fraud from “card skimming” has increased dramatically. “Card skimming” is an illegal activity where criminals clone, copy, or steal financial information from a card through a variety of means including phishing schemes and skimming devices.

According to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS), from October 2022 through December 2024 over \$15 million in benefits were stolen from over 30,000 individuals on SNAP.

Additionally, the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities reported that states replaced to more than 315,000 households over \$150 million in stolen benefits from January 2023 to September of 2024.

Luckily, the federal government created the SNAP Fraud Replacement Program for states to replace stolen benefits to those families and individuals who were targeted by this heinous crime.

However, support for this program ended in December of 2024 after Congress declined to fund the program further. This leaves families in crisis vulnerable to having their benefits stolen and not replaced. This resolution asks Congress to restore this funding so that our most vulnerable citizens aren't penalized through no fault of their own.

Additionally, this resolution also asks for the federal government to focus on implementing and funding anti-fraud measures such as replacing current SNAP EBT cards with security chip cards. This is critically important to protect benefits and taxpayer dollars while also stifling the criminal element who is currently defrauding taxpayers and hurting families.

Though SNAP is a federally funded program, we should do all we can to protect taxpayer dollars and our most vulnerable families in need.

I applaud ODJFS Director Matt Damschroder and his staff for being proactive and implementing SNAP fraud prevention efforts here in Ohio, including increased public awareness, frequently sharing fraud prevention tips with SNAP EBT recipients as well as implementing new tools and programs.

I look forward to continuing working with Director Damschroder on new ways that Ohio can stop SNAP EBT fraud and abuse at the state level.

Thank you once again Chairman Koehler and members of the committee for the opportunity to present this legislation to you today. I will be glad to answer any questions at this time.