

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB70-E

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
 Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. **Patron:** McPike

3. **Committee:** Health and Human Services

4. **Title:** SNAP; employment and training.

5. **Summary:** Requires all local departments of social services to offer a voluntary employment and training program for SNAP benefits program participants.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes. Items 324, 325, and 326.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary. See Item 8.

7a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2024	-	-	-
2025	\$2,989,257	3	General fund
2025	\$4,162,673	3	Nongeneral funds
2026	\$2,880,162	3	General fund
2026	\$4,018,263	3	Nongeneral funds
2027	\$2,880,162	3	General fund
2027	\$4,018,263	3	Nongeneral funds
2028	\$2,880,162	3	General fund
2028	\$4,018,263	3	Nongeneral funds
2029	\$2,880,162	3	General fund
2029	\$4,018,263	3	Nongeneral funds
2030	\$2,880,162	3	General fund
2030	\$4,018,263	3	Nongeneral funds

*There is a 15.5 percent local match of \$1,173,416 in FY 2025 and \$1,138,100 in FY 2026 and each year thereafter.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training program (SNAP E&T) is a program designed to assist Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients in finding opportunities that will lead to paid employment and decrease dependency on assistance programs.

Currently, SNAP E&T is only offered in 37 local departments of social services (LDSS). This bill will extend the program to all LDSS offices, which will add an additional 83 local departments. As of October 2023, there were 64,877 SNAP participants subject to the work

requirement. Out of this population, 38,110 participants were eligible for SNAP E&T at one of the current 37 local departments that offer the program. Therefore, there are an estimated 26,767 eligible SNAP E&T participants from the remaining 83 LDSS. It is assumed that an additional 6,692 ($26,767 \times 0.25$) individuals will participate in SNAP E&T under the expanded program. The following information provides the anticipated additional cost to expand SNAP E&T to all LDSS offices without reducing funding to existing LDSS offices providing this program.

Local Effort

New local staff will be required to handle the increased workload. For all new participants, local employment staff will need to provide initial customer contact, preassessments, initial assessments, reassessments, develop plans of participation, confirm eligibility, and monitor program progress. The total number of hours required for an additional 6,692 participants is estimated to be 80,304 annually. This increase in workload equals an increase of 38.6 ($80,304/2080$) additional required full-time equivalent (FTE) local workers and 5.5 ($38.6 / 7$ employees per supervisor) additional full-time equivalent (FTE) supervisors across local departments. The estimated cost of 44.1 ($38.6 + 5.5$) additional FTEs, including salaries, benefits and on-boarding costs is \$4,224,424 in fiscal year (FY) 2025 and \$3,996,581 in FY 2026 and thereafter.

Local FTE costs are split 34.5 percent general fund, 50 percent nongeneral funds, and 15.5 percent local match. Costs in FY 2025 are estimated at \$1,457,426 general fund, \$2,112,212 nongeneral funds, and \$654,786 local match. Costs beginning in FY 2026 are estimated at \$1,378,820 general fund, \$1,998,291 nongeneral funds, and \$619,470 local match.

Additionally, projected costs of \$500 per participant for supportive services like transportation, educational materials, or uniforms are also needed at an annual ongoing services cost of approximately \$3,346,000 ($6,692 \times \500). The costs are split \$1,154,370 general fund; \$1,673,000 nongeneral funds, and \$518,630 local match.

Home & Regional Office Costs

The Department of Social Services (DSS) will need one full-time program consultant for additional reporting and monitoring, preparing annual plans, and providing technical assistance. The annual estimated cost for salary, benefits, and non-personal services, including one-time onboarding costs, is \$127,471 in FY 2025 and \$122,308 beginning in FY 2026. These amounts are funded with 50 percent general fund dollars and 50 percent nongeneral funds.

Based on the agency's regional office approach for providing subject matter expertise to local departments, five regional consultants will be needed to provide technical assistance, answer programmatic questions, provide training, and serve as liaisons between central office staff and local departments. The annual estimated cost for salaries, benefits, and nonpersonal services, including one-time on-boarding costs, is \$584,451 in FY 2025 and \$558,636 beginning in FY 2026. These amounts are funded with 50 percent general fund dollars and 50 percent nongeneral funds.

Additionally, there are costs to develop and maintain a training curriculum and virtual courses. These costs are \$30,000 in FY 2025 for course development and \$13,000 in FY 2026 and thereafter for virtual course delivery. Training will be provided to local department staff providing SNAP E&T programs. Costs in this paragraph are funded with 50 percent general fund dollars and 50 percent nongeneral funds.

The agency also believes that new SNAP E&T programs will better reach eligible participants if a one-time media campaign is implemented in FY 2025. A campaign is estimated at \$175,000 in FY 2025; however, this amount is not included in the cost estimates in the table in #7 above, nor the total estimates below because a media campaign is not required by the bill.

The total cost of this legislation if the program is funded for full implementation is estimated to be \$8,325,346 in FY 2025 (\$2,989,257 general fund, \$4,162,673 nongeneral funds, and \$1,173,416 local match) and \$8,036,525 beginning in FY 2026 (\$2,880,162 general fund, \$4,018,263 nongeneral funds, and \$1,138,100 local match).

The amended bill adds wording that specifies that the employment and training program shall be funded from “such funds so appropriated.” In the event that the program is not fully funded as laid out in this fiscal impact statement, all 120 local departments will be required to operate SNAP E&T programs, using the current funding for 37 local SNAP E&T programs. This may impact the effectiveness of the programs.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Social Services, local departments of social services

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.