

## HR 1189

Anti-hunger Empowerment Act of 2017

**Congress:** 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Agriculture and Food

**Introduced:** Feb 16, 2017

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition. (Mar 10, 2017)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/1189>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Serrano, Jose E. [D-NY-15]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** NY • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Brady, Robert A. [D-PA-1]	D · PA		Jul 26, 2017

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 10, 2017

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Agriculture and Food

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

## **Anti-hunger Empowerment Act of 2017**

This bill reduces administrative requirements for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as the food stamp program), authorizes funding to increase access to SNAP offices, and authorizes grants for community-based nonprofits to expand anti-hunger activities.

The bill amends the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to repeal existing provisions regarding administrative costs and authorize the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to pay 75% of the administrative costs for state agencies to increase the operating hours of SNAP offices, reduce wait times, accept online applications, upgrade technology, and provide a checklist of required documents.

If a state agency believes that information provided by a SNAP applicant is incorrect or incomplete, the agency must notify the applicant in writing and include instructions for providing the required information. Unless the information is not provided in response to the request or it cannot be verified, a state must not require an applicant to appear in person. State agencies must not require fingerprints for any member of a household to participate in SNAP or receive benefits.

USDA must report annually to Congress on the comparative progress of states in improving access to SNAP.

### *Beyond the Soup Kitchen Grants Program Act of 2017*

The bill establishes a Beyond the Soup Kitchen Pilot Program to provide grants to community-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger groups for programs to reduce hunger, increase the use of nutrition assistance and anti-poverty programs, bolster food security, assist individuals and families to develop assets, promote economic independence, improve nutrition, and reduce obesity.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Mar 10, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition.
- **Feb 16, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 16, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.