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Snap Back Inaccurate SNAP Payments Act

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Jan 29, 2025

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. (Jan 29, 2025)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/302

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Ernst, Joni [R-IA]

Party: Republican • State: IA • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Britt, Katie Boyd [R-AL]	R · AL		Jan 29, 2025
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Jan 29, 2025

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 29, 2025

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
119 HR 762	Identical bill	Feb 28, 2025: Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition and Foreign Agriculture.

Snap Back Inaccurate SNAP Payments Act

This bill requires states to recoup any overpayments of benefits made to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients and adjusts the formula for determining a state's liability rate for overpayments.

As background, the SNAP quality control system measures how accurately SNAP state agencies determine a household's eligibility and benefit amount and determines overpayments of benefits and underpayments. States that have comparatively high payment error rates for two consecutive years are assessed a penalty (i.e., liability amount). The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) must use a statutory formula to determine the liability amount.

Under current law, FNS must set a tolerance level for excluding small payment errors in the calculation of payment error rates (e.g., \$56 or less in FY2024). This bill reduces the tolerance level for excluding small errors to \$0 for FY2025 and each succeeding fiscal year.

The bill also requires state agencies to recoup any overpayments of benefits made to SNAP beneficiaries.

The bill adjusts the liability rate formula to reduce the state payment error rate based on the percentage of overpayments recouped by the state. Further, the bill increases the multiplier used in the liability rate formula to 25% (from 10%).

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 29, 2025:** Introduced in Senate
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