



March 24, 2026

Senator Melissa Wiklund, Chair
Senate Finance Committee
95 University Avenue W.
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: SF 4359 – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Dear Chair Wiklund and Members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee:

The Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), the Minnesota Association of County Social Service Administrators (MACSSA) and the Minnesota Inter-County Association (MICA) thank Senator Boldon for her leadership and urge support for SF 4359.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is a federal program that provides food assistance to low-income individuals and households, reducing food insecurity and improving nutrition for Minnesotans statewide. Founded in 1964 as the food stamp program, SNAP currently serves 177,000 children, 70,000 seniors and 56,000 adults with disabilities in Minnesota. Counties determine eligibility and operationalize the program throughout Minnesota's 87 counties.

SF 4359 protects counties from cost shares and shifts associated with implementing the federal reconciliation bill, otherwise known as HR 1. Passed in 2025 by Congress, HR 1 instituted new federal cost shifts to states by increasing the administrative cost share and instituting a new cost share for the benefit based on the state's payment error rate (PER).

Counties are thankful that the Governor's Supplemental Budget proposal reflects the state bearing the financial responsibility for the new benefit cost share associated with SNAP under HR 1. As the Payment Error Rate is driven by state systems and federal directives, counties strongly support this direction. Counties urge lawmakers to also cap the county administrative cost share at current levels, protecting counties from an additional 25- point percentage cost increase and alleviating significant property tax pressure.

Counties remain committed to being strong partners in implementing the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program in Minnesota alongside our state, tribal and community partners. We thank legislators for ensuring that the costs associated with implementing HR 1 become the state's responsibility.

Sincerely,

Julie Ring
Executive Director, AMC

Paul Verrette
Director, MACSSA
Human Services Policy Analyst, AMC

Nathan Jesson
Executive Director, MICA