County Impacts: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Association *of* Minnesota Counties

HR 1 Reconciliation Package

- Reconciliation package had two significant areas of impacts to counties: SNAP and Medicaid (MA).
- Waterfall of different effective dates means impact will grow for the next five years.
- ***Takeaway:***
  Benefits will be reduced, state and local costs will increase.

SNAP	MEDICAID
Administrative Cost Shift • Shifts federal administrative reimbursement from 50% to 25% • County reimbursement from the feds in 2024 was $61.7 million – this will be cut in half. **Benefits Cost Shift** • Shifts from fully federally funded to states required to contribute based on state SNAP error rate • States with higher error rates contribute a higher percentage towards SNAP benefits – up to 10% or $86 million annually.	**Work requirements** • New mandatory work requirements for able-bodied adults aged 19–64 without dependents. • In 2018, MMB Fiscal Note estimated costs of similar provisions at **$160 million/annually** for MN counties. **Administrative burden** • Monthly address checks beginning in 2029, quarterly death checks for enrollees starting in 2028, monthly provider eligibility and death screenings starting in 2028, and twice-yearly eligibility redeterminations for Medicaid expansion adults beginning in 2026. **Shortened Presumptive Eligibility** • The bill will cut retroactive Medicaid coverage from three months to one month for adults without children, and to two months for other enrollees

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Counties Provide Food Security Through SNAP

There will be changes in eligibility for SNAP recipients -- counties provide the frontline support and direct assistance to those who apply for benefits.

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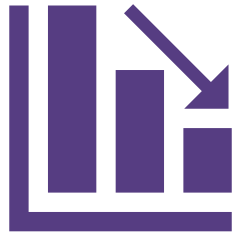
Direct Federal Cost Shifts in SNAP

Administrative Cost Shift

Shifts federal administrative reimbursement from 50% to 25%

County reimbursement from the feds in 2024 was $61.7 million – this will be cut in half.



Benefits Cost Shift

Shifts from fully federally funded benefits to states required to contribute based on state SNAP error rate

States with higher error rates contribute a higher percentage towards SNAP benefits – up to 10% or $86 million annually.

Increased Workload

Eligibility changes including new work requirements will increase the amount and complexity of county administrative work -- all done in antiquated technology systems.

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Potential Costs to Counties

County	Blue Earth	Scott	Ramsey	Wright	Meeker	St. Louis
# of Cases (Monthly)	2,848	2,807	35,665	2,918	802	11,556
Potential Benefit Costs	$1,024,497	$1,155,342	$14,383,082	$1,110,595	$274,892	$3,752,895
Administrative Costs	$376,383	$370,931	$4,713,468	$385,678	$105,993	$1,527,271
Total Cost Increase	$1,400,880	$1,526,273	$19,096,550	$1,496,273	$380,885	$5,280,167
Property Tax Increase	2.93%	1.71%	4.82%	1.49%	2.19%	2.93%

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Counties Administer SNAP in Minnesota

- Minnesota one of 10 county-administered benefits states in the nation, meaning these impacts hit locals disproportionately hard.
- The State-run information technology systems that underpin our benefit systems are out of date and create significant administrative cost burden to counties.
  - It takes 1-2 years for a county worker to master the SNAP eligibility system.
  - The system is already outdated and does not reflect current Minnesota law, let alone the new HR 1 changes = resulting in workarounds, time lost, and potentially errors.

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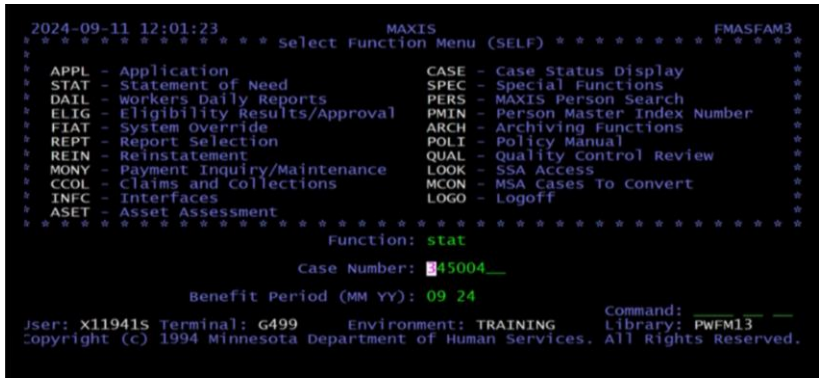
Burcum: Tears, workarounds and 1990s screens push county staff to the limit

Policymakers know that the operating systems used for Minnesota public assistance programs are antiquated. But I was still startled to see them up close.

By Jill Burcum
The Minnesota Star Tribune

SEPTEMBER 28, 2025 AT 6:00AM



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Counties Need State Partnership

County Requests:

- State level appropriations to cover the federal administrative and benefit cost shifts.
- Prioritize modernizing the technology systems used to administer these benefits.