



House of Representatives
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg

October 23, 2025

Valerie A. Arkoosh, MD, Secretary
Department of Human Services, Office of Administration
625 Forster Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

FOR ELECTRONIC DELIVERY

Dear Secretary Arkoosh:

We are writing to express our concerns regarding the recent public communications from the Department of Human Services about the November Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) payments.

As members of the Pennsylvania House, we certainly appreciate the Department of Human Services' efforts to communicate benefit changes through the Department's website or through press releases. Providing this information in a clear and factual manner helps our citizens understand the changes that may impact their daily lives.

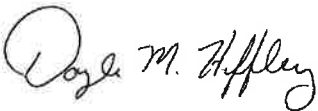
Regrettably, it has come to our attention that the recent Department announcements regarding the changes to the November SNAP payments were utilized as a means to cast blame on the Republican Congressional members and to politicize this challenging situation. Such blatant partisanship will only further exacerbate the political divide and will have a detrimental effect on the communication between the General Assembly and the Administration at a time when such communication is crucial.

It is also perplexing that the Department of Human Services' press release dated October 20, 2025, states "Republicans' failure to pass a federal budget in Washington D.C. is having a direct impact on our Commonwealth". Pennsylvania's state budget is 115 days late (as of the date of this letter) without an end in sight. The language in the press release conveniently shifts focus to the federal

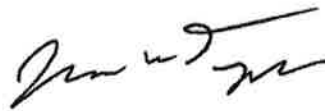
budget without any acknowledgement of the challenges that we are facing on a state level or the Administration's role in rectifying such challenges.

We recognize the economic hardship that the cessation of payments of SNAP benefits has had on our constituents, and we sincerely hope that the issue can be resolved in a timely manner. However, the Department's use of an official state website to assign blame is of little comfort to the constituents who will not receive the SNAP benefits.

We urge the Department to reconsider its approach and focus on fostering a bipartisan effort to address the pressing issues at hand. We look forward to working together to find solutions that benefit all our constituents.



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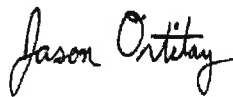
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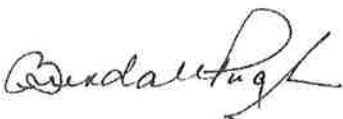
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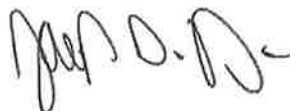
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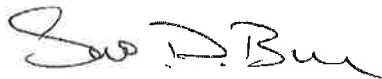
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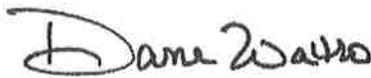
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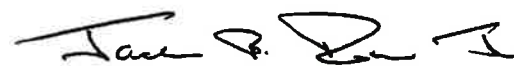
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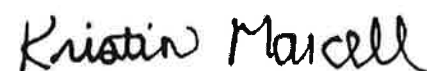
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