



# City of Chicago



R2013-780

Office of the City Clerk

## Document Tracking Sheet

**Meeting Date:** 9/11/2013

**Sponsor(s):** Burns, William D. (4)

**Type:** Resolution

**Title:** Opposition to cuts for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

**Committee(s) Assignment:**

**City of Chicago SNAP Protection Resolution**

**WHEREAS**, No resident of Chicago should have to be food-insecure; and

**WHEREAS**, 581,558, or 1 in 5 residents in Chicago are experiencing food insecurity, meaning they lack access to adequate nutritious food for a healthy lifestyle; and

**WHEREAS**, 145,261, or just under 1 in 4 children in Chicago are experiencing food insecurity; and

**WHEREAS**, Food insecurity is experienced in every community area in the City of Chicago; and

**WHEREAS**, Hunger increases health care costs, lowers workers' productivity, harms children's development, and diminishes children's educational performance; and

**WHEREAS**, Fighting hunger is a public-private partnership; in Chicago, a strong private network exists that has provided 680,000 million people in Illinois with more than 66 million pounds of food in Fiscal Year 2013; however, private charity cannot do it alone and a strong federal hunger relief safety net is required; and

**WHEREAS**, The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the cornerstone to the federal food and nutrition safety net; and

**WHEREAS**, SNAP is the cornerstone of the nutrition safety net, with 693,360 Chicago residents enrolled in the program; just under half of those utilizing the program are children; and

**WHEREAS**, SNAP provides an important economic stimulus to Chicago's communities, with every dollar in SNAP support spent generating \$1.79 in economic activity; and

**WHEREAS**, any reduction in funding of or change in policy that seeks to exclude individuals participating in SNAP will increase the number of food-insecure people in Chicago; and

**WHEREAS**, threats to SNAP, exist in the current effort to reauthorize the Farm Bill; and

**WHEREAS**, Congress has proposed to cut up to \$40 billion from SNAP in the Farm Bill, which would result in tremendous hardship for Chicago residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chicago seeks to encourage Congress to protect SNAP and support a Farm Bill with a strong Title IV that protects and strengthens federal food and nutrition programs; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the Mayor and members of the Chicago City Council assembled this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 2013, are hereby opposed to cuts in SNAP in the Farm Bill or the federal governments annual budgeting process; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That suitable copies of this resolution be delivered to the members of the Illinois congressional delegation, the President of the United States, and the United States Secretary of Agriculture.



William D. Burns

William D. Burns  
Alderman, 4<sup>th</sup> Ward  
City of Chicago

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