

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 938

H.P. 603

House of Representatives, March 11, 2025

**An Act to Implement Certain Local Spending and Sourcing
Requirements Regarding the Statewide Supplemental Nutrition
Assistance Program**

Received by the Clerk of the House on March 5, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative FLYNN of Albion.
Cosponsored by Representatives: ARFORD of Brunswick, BOYER of Poland, BOYER of Cape Elizabeth, CHAPMAN of Auburn, COLLINS of Sidney, MORRIS of Turner, OLSEN of Raymond.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3104, sub-§18** is enacted to read:

3 **18. Local spending requirement.** A household receiving food assistance through
4 SNAP must spend at least 10% of each monthly SNAP benefit within a 50-mile radius of
5 the household's declared residence. The department shall adopt rules to implement this
6 subsection. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined
7 in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

8 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §3104, sub-§19** is enacted to read:

9 **19. Retailer requirements.** In addition to the requirements established by the United
10 States Department of Agriculture, a retailer participating in SNAP shall ensure that at least
11 10% of all perishable foods in the retailer's inventory are sourced from within the State.
12 For the purposes of this subsection, "perishable food" means any food that may spoil or
13 otherwise become unfit for human consumption because of its nature, type or physical
14 condition. "Perishable food" includes, but is not limited to, fresh and processed meats,
15 poultry, seafood, dairy products, bakery products, eggs in the shells, fresh fruits and
16 vegetables and foods that have been packaged, refrigerated or frozen.

17 **SUMMARY**

18 This bill requires a household receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
19 benefits to spend at least 10% of each monthly benefit within a 50-mile radius of the
20 household's declared residence. It also provides that, in addition to the requirements
21 established by the United States Department of Agriculture, a retailer participating in the
22 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program must ensure that at least 10% of all perishable
23 foods in the retailer's inventory are sourced from within the State.