

**MOTION BY SUPERVISORS HILDA L. SOLIS  
AND JANICE HAHN**

**Reducing Food Insecurity for Seniors and People with Disabilities through Reversal  
of the SSI/SSP Cash-Out**

For the past several decades, seniors and people with disabilities enrolled in State Supplement Security Income and/or State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP) have been unable to receive CalFresh, California’s version of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). It is undisputed, however, that SSI/SPP recipients are some of our most vulnerable residents in Los Angeles County, but the archaic rule precluded them from achieving the food security CalFresh benefits are intended to provide. Instead, they received a \$10 payment, referred to as “Cash-Out,” which made it challenging to purchase food and, therefore, resulted in food insecurity and contributed to deep poverty.

Recognizing this inequity, the California Legislature passed and the Governor approved a reversal of the SSI/SSP Cash-Out scheme in 2018. Effective later this year, SSI/SSP recipients will be eligible to apply for CalFresh benefits. This historic change has the potential to benefit 206,000 eligible SSI/SSP recipients in Los Angeles County alone.

Successful implementation of the SSI/SSP Cash-Out reversal in Los Angeles County is imperative to reduce hunger and poverty among Los Angeles County’s seniors and people with disabilities. It also requires successful implementation of Supplemental Nutrition Benefit (SNB) program and Transitional Benefit Program (TNB),

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which are new programs created in conjunction with the SSI/SSP Cash-Out. These two new programs were created to mitigate any potential harm to existing CalFresh households. These efforts are key to improving food security among Los Angeles County's residents—one of our most critical priorities.

**WE, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Direct the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), in collaboration with the Public Social Services Commission, the Department of Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (WDACS), and non-profit organizations, to develop a comprehensive workplan to implement successfully the SSI/SSP Cash-Out Reversal policy change in Los Angeles County;
2. Direct DPSS to track the number of SSI/SSP recipients that are enrolled in the CalFresh program;
3. Direct DPSS to track the number of CalFresh recipients that are enrolled in Supplemental Nutrition Benefit (SNB) and Transitional Benefit Program (TNB);  
and
4. Direct DPSS to report back in writing to the Board of Supervisors and provide the workplan within 60 days.