



February 8, 2024

Honorable Andrea Stewart-Cousins  
Chair, New York State Senate  
Albany, NY 12247

Honorable Rachel May  
Senator, New York State Senate  
Albany, NY 12247

Honorable Carl E. Heastie  
Speaker, New York State Assembly  
Albany, NY 12247

Honorable Jessica González-Rojas  
Assemblymember, New York State Assembly  
Albany, NY 12247

Dear Esteemed Legislative Leaders,

Nearly three million New Yorkers who rely on SNAP experienced significant cuts in their monthly benefits when pandemic emergency allotments (EAs) ended in March 2023. Households saw an average loss of \$151 per month, with some now only receiving \$23 per month for groceries. Increasing vital nutrition assistance to low-income New Yorkers is needed. The Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York strongly supports newly introduced legislation—A.6214A and S.7663A introduced by Assemblymember Jessica González-Rojas and Senator Rachel May, respectively—which would guarantee a minimum SNAP monthly benefit of \$100 for NY enrollees.

SNAP has been proven to reduce poverty, improve health outcomes, and stimulate local economies; a \$1 benefit is estimated to result in \$1.79 in economic activity according to the Food Action and Research Center. Research also shows that higher SNAP benefit levels increase participation rates—meaning New York could bring in additional federal dollars with a higher minimum benefit.

As an organization focused on supporting thriving food and farming systems, NOFA-NY urges you to support A.6214A/S.7663A in the FY25 one-house budgets.

Sincerely,

Katie Baidon,  
Policy Manager  
Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York  
[kbaidon@nofany.org](mailto:kbaidon@nofany.org)