



Food Stamp Work Requirements

Work requirements have proven to be an effective way to increase incomes and reduce dependency.



OUR PROPOSAL

Expand successful food stamp work requirements to all able-bodied adults in the program, requiring able-bodied adults to work, train, or volunteer for 20 hours per week. Adults who choose not to meet this requirement would be limited to three months of benefits in any three-year period.



APPLIES TO:

✓ Able-bodied adults



EXEMPT:

✗ Individuals with disabilities
✗ Seniors

AFTER CHILDLESS ADULT WORK REQUIREMENTS

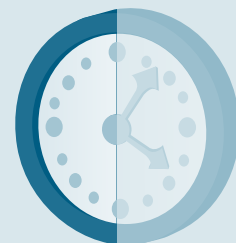
Enrollees go back to work and their income more than doubles



Their increased incomes more than offset lost benefits



Their time on welfare is cut in half



Expanded food stamp work requirements could save taxpayers more than **\$120 billion** OVER THE NEXT **10 years**

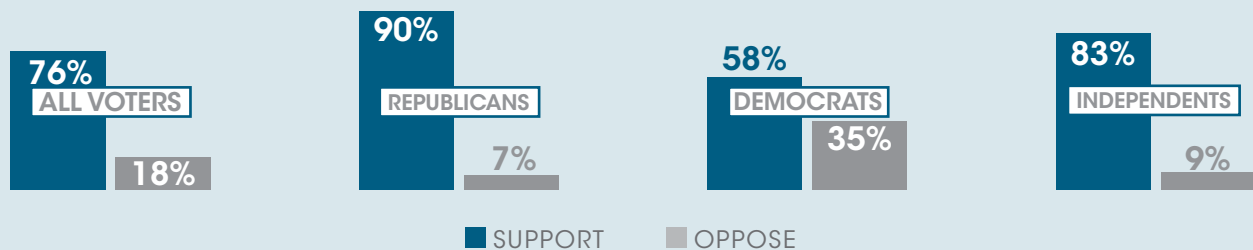
Status quo (baseline)	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	Total
Enrollment	14.7	14.2	13.8	13.3	12.9	12.5	12.1	11.9	11.7	11.7	
TAXPAYER COST	\$27	\$27	\$27	\$27	\$27	\$27	\$27	\$27	\$27	\$28	\$269B

After expanded work requirements	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	Total
Enrollment decline	6.6	6.4	6.2	6	5.8	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.3	5.3	
TAXPAYER SAVINGS	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$121B

Enrollment in millions; costs & savings in billions

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, 56% of able-bodied adults on food stamps report no earned income, meaning they aren't working at all.

Voters support expanding work requirements



SOURCES

Congressional Budget Office, "Supplemental nutrition assistance program: January 2017 baseline," Congressional Budget Office (2017).

Food and Nutrition Services, "Characteristics of supplemental nutrition assistance households: fiscal year 2015," U.S. Department of Agriculture (2016).

Jonathan Ingram and Nic Horton, "Building on success: Expanding work requirements to increase incomes" Foundation for Government Accountability (forthcoming). Data to construct projected baseline enrollment and expenditures was provided by the Congressional Budget Office and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

