



# Why Arkansas Should Not Expand Their Food Stamp Asset Limit

## WHERE ARKANSAS IS CURRENTLY



Arkansas uses the USDA federal standard asset limit for households: **\$2,250**, or **\$3,500** for households where a member is age **60** or older or is disabled.<sup>1</sup>



“Assets” are described as **cash or resources** a household has in the bank.<sup>2</sup>



Exemptions include **household dwelling**, **household personal goods**, **life insurance** and **pensions**, and at least **one vehicle**.<sup>3</sup>

## WHY THE FEDERAL STANDARD IS BEST



Using the federal standard for food stamp asset tests is a way to **ensure that only the truly needy are receiving benefits.**



Individuals with \$7,500 in the bank are not truly needy. **The federal standard protects the safety net.**



Keeping the asset limit low is a method to **ensure wealthy Arkansans aren't syphoning limited resources.**

# CHANGING THE ASSET LIMIT TO \$7,500 IS WRONG FOR ARKANSAS

## \$7,500 in Arkansas can get you...

Nearly a year of rent for a one-bedroom apartment in Little Rock.<sup>4</sup>

Nearly a year and a half of child care for a four-year-old.<sup>5</sup>

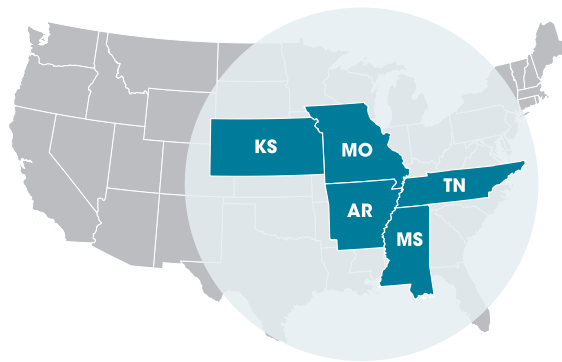
Nearly two years of tuition and fees for workforce education at Arkansas Tech University (ATU).<sup>6</sup>

Nearly two years of health insurance premiums for the lowest-cost bronze plan for a 40-year-old Arkansan.<sup>7</sup>

Nearly five years of gas for an Arkansan driving a GMC Sierra 200 miles per week at \$2.75 per gallon.<sup>8</sup>

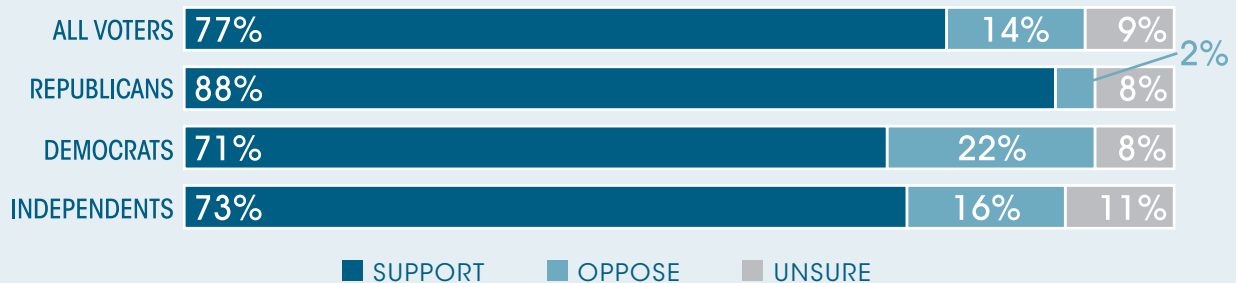
Nearly a year and a half's worth of groceries for a single mom and a toddler.<sup>9</sup>

## ARKANSAS'S NEIGHBORS ALSO USE THE FEDERAL STANDARD<sup>10</sup>



States that use the federal standard for food stamp asset limits

## Voters support checking assets of those applying for food stamps.



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