

**STUDENT SENATE BILL 2019-1088**

**TITLE: Resolution Recognizing the Need for the Accessibility of SNAP at Applicable Campus Locations**

**AUTHOR(S): Latinx Caucus Leader Mauricio Perez**

**SPONSOR(S): Senator Kevin Trejos, Senator Alana Rush, Senator Anthony Portugues, Senator Mary Faas, Diversity Cabinet Chair Stephanie Beltran, Students Taking Action Against Racism Agency Head Derlis Leyva, Hispanic Student Association President Isabella Oliver, Florida Latinx Hispanic American Student Union President Katie Hernandez, Senator Maria Espinoza**

**WHEREAS**, the University of Florida states as its mission that it “aspires to advance by strengthening the human condition and improving the quality of life [1];” and,

**WHEREAS**, hundreds of thousands of college students experience food insecurity, a condition characterized by disrupted eating patterns and reduced quality and quantity of diets, every day [2]; and,

**WHEREAS**, college affordability is a major factor for current students, and a barrier to entry for prospective students at the University of Florida and all institutions of higher education; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP, formerly known as the Food Stamp Program, is a form of assistance to low or no-income Americans facing food insecurity; and,

**WHEREAS**, 18 percent of college students qualify for SNAP but only 3 percent receive benefits [2]; and,

**WHEREAS**, H. Res 3875 and S. Bill 1707, commonly called the College Student Hunger Act, increased the number of college students eligible to participate in the SNAP program [3]; and,

**WHEREAS**, SNAP helps reduce the cost of food purchases at grocery stores, convenience stores, some farmer's markets and co-op food programs; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Provisions On Demand or POD Markets on campus act as convenience stores; and,

**WHEREAS**, the University of Florida Student Government strives to secure access to foods and promote economic diversity at the University of Florida; then,

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes the urgent need for POD Markets and other qualifying businesses on campus to submit an application to receive SNAP benefits to the Food and Nutrition Service of the United States Department of Agriculture.

**THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate respectfully requests that the University of Florida Assistant Vice President of Business Affairs Eddie Daniels should oversee this process.

**THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate encourages qualifying members of the student body to apply for SNAP benefits.

**THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate stands committed to ensuring that the members of the student body who qualify for SNAP benefits should not be limited by the availability of SNAP recipients on campus, or lack thereof, in their decision to apply for benefits.

*Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Provost Dr. Joseph Glover, University President Dr. W. Kent Fuchs, Vice President of Business Affairs Curtis A. Reynolds, Assistant Vice President of Business Affairs Eddie Daniels, Dean of Students Dr. Heather White, Director of Multicultural and Diversity Affairs Will Atkins, Student Body Vice President Sarah Abraham, and Student Body Treasurer Santiago Gutierrez.*

[1] <https://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog1011/administration/mission.html>

[2] [http://younginvincibles.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Rethinking\\_SNAP\\_benefits.pdf](http://younginvincibles.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Rethinking_SNAP_benefits.pdf)

[3] <https://projects.propublica.org/represent/bills/115/hr3875>