

By: Senator(s) Jackson (11th), Simmons (13th), Butler (36th), Norwood, Horhn, Jordan, Frazier, Simmons (12th), Thomas

To: Public Health and Welfare; Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2727

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE SNAP HEALTHY FOOD INCENTIVE PROGRAM ACT
2 OF 2022; TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, SUBJECT TO
3 APPROPRIATION, TO MAKE AN ANNUAL GRANT TO FUND A QUALIFIED
4 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION; TO REQUIRE THE ORGANIZATION TO DISTRIBUTE
5 TO PARTICIPATING FARMERS MARKETS AND RETAILERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF
6 PROVIDING MATCHING DOLLAR INCENTIVES FOR THE DOLLAR VALUE OF SNAP
7 BENEFITS SPENT ON ELIGIBLE FRUITS AND VEGETABLES; AND FOR RELATED
8 PURPOSES.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

10 **SECTION 1.** (1) This section shall be known and may be cited
11 as the "SNAP Healthy Food Incentive Program Act of 2022."

12 (2) Subject to appropriation, the Mississippi Department of
13 Human Services shall make an annual grant to fund a qualified
14 Mississippi nonprofit organization or agency. Such nonprofit
15 organization or agency shall distribute to participating
16 Mississippi farmers markets and retailers for the purpose of
17 providing matching dollar incentives for the dollar value of SNAP
18 benefits spent on eligible fruits and vegetables at participating
19 Mississippi farmers markets and direct producer-to-consumer
20 venues.



21 (3) The designated qualified nonprofit organization or
22 agency shall have a demonstrated track record of:

23 (a) Building a statewide network;

24 (b) Implementing funds distribution and reporting
25 processes;

26 (c) Providing training and technical assistance to
27 farmers markets and direct producer-to-consumer venues;

28 (d) Conducting community outreach and data collection;
29 and

30 (e) Providing full accounting and administration of
31 funds distributed to farmers markets.

32 (4) All money received pursuant to appropriation shall be
33 deposited into the Healthy Food Incentives Fund, hereby created in
34 the State Treasury. At least ninety percent (90%) of the money
35 deposited into the Healthy Food Incentive Fund shall be
36 distributed to participating Mississippi farmers markets and
37 retailers for healthy food incentives. A maximum of ten percent
38 (10%) of the money deposited into the Healthy Food Incentive Fund
39 shall be used for state program development, promotion and
40 outreach, farmers market and retailer training and capacity
41 building, technical assistance, program data collection,
42 evaluation, administration, reporting and program implementation.

43 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
44 and after July 1, 2022.

