

Heather Arvidson  
Brunswick, ME  
LD2051

Dear Senator Ingwersen and Representative Meyer and members of the Joint Health and Human Services Committee. My name is Heather Arvidson, writing today as a concerned citizen and Program Director at Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program (MCHPP) in Brunswick in support of LD2051: An Act to Ensure Access to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Every day MCHPP serves households from all over the state struggling to meet their basic needs. It is only with the combined financial support of SNAP and Food Pantries across the state that many families, immigrants or citizens, are able to fulfill their food needs. For any family to lose access to one of those needed services would be a detriment to their livelihood.

The state-funded food assistance program has for decades helped to fill in the gaps for Maine residents left by the federal program. To benefit Maine's future, a future where immigrants play a vital role in expanding our economy and culture, we need to ensure everyone legally admitted into the United States, regardless of citizenship, has access to food and SNAP.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Heather Arvidson