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October 23, 2025

The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave SW
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Rollins:

I am writing regarding the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) program, which serves as a vital safety net for low-income individuals. In Maine alone, SNAP benefits more than 170,000 people, including 50,000 children and 73,000 older adults. The needless and reckless government shutdown directed by Senator Schumer is putting federal nutrition assistance for these individuals at risk.

The SNAP program is incredibly important to low-income families in Maine. I urge you to consider all available options in accordance with federal law to ensure that this vital nutrition assistance continues, including the use of contingency funds and looking at the viability of partial payments or any transfer authority you may have. I will continue to work with my colleagues to end this damaging shutdown and reopen the government, but in the interim, I ask that you use every available tool to ensure legally available funds are expended to provide SNAP benefits.

Thank you for your continued leadership at the Department of Agriculture. I thank you for your consideration and ask for your swift action.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator