

CONCISE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.6, the following is a concise explanatory statement:

AGENCY: Department of Human Services

DIVISION: *(If any)*

RULE IDENTIFIER: 218-RICR-20-00-1

RULE TITLE: SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

REASON FOR RULEMAKING: The Department of Human Services is amending this rule in order to comply with the provisions set forth in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act of 2025 (OBBB) (Pub. Law 119-21), also known H.R.1., as well as updates to the Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA) for Fiscal Year 2026.

ANY FINDING REQUIRED BY LAW AS A PREREQUISITE TO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE RULE: None

TESTIMONY AND COMMENTS: The comment period ended on March 12, 2026. No comments were submitted.

CHANGE TO TEXT OF THE RULE: No changes have been made between the text of the rule as proposed and the final rule.

REGULATORY ANALYSIS: Federally mandated changes and standardization allow for more consistency that align nationwide. These measures may strengthen program integrity, improve verification accuracy, and create more predictable budgeting for state agencies, while potentially increasing workforce participation among some adults. However, they also risk lowering SNAP benefits for many low-income households, increasing food insecurity, adding administrative burden to the state, and creating disproportionate hardship for older adults, immigrants, and people with employment challenges.