



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**Ohio Association of Foodbanks Statement on the Final Passage of SB 315 to Support  
SNAP EBT Modernization and Protect Food Assistance Resources**

*Media Statement from Joree Novotny, executive director, Ohio Association of Foodbanks*

"The Ohio Association of Foodbanks applauds Governor Mike DeWine for signing Ohio Senate Bill 315 into law. This legislation will enable important fraud protections that will save taxpayer dollars and protect low-income Ohioans. Through gradual implementation of SNAP EBT card modernization, Ohio will adopt a proven technology solution to prevent organized criminals from continuing to defraud Ohio families to the tune of millions of dollars. On behalf of Ohio's foodbanks and the 650,000 Ohio households that turn to SNAP for help meeting their monthly food needs, we thank Governor DeWine and the 136<sup>th</sup> Ohio General Assembly for this important legislation.

"We also want to again thank Senators Tim Schaffer and Hearcel Craig for their sponsorship of Senate Bill 315 and Representatives Kellie Deeter and Tristan Rader for their sponsorship of House Bill 163. These bipartisan, bicameral leaders worked with a sense of urgency, alongside Senate President McColley, Speaker Huffman, Senate Finance leadership including Chair Cirino, Vice Chair Chavez, and Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, House Agriculture leadership including Chair Klopfenstein, Vice Chair Newman, and Ranking Member Miller, and House Finance leadership including Chair Stewart, Vice Chair Dovilla, and Ranking Member Sweeney, to see this critical effort through to the finish line. We look forward to partnering with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and consumers and food retailers as this technology solution is implemented.

"Ohio's foodbanks know that resources are limited and that truly vulnerable people are counting on all of us to protect the integrity of food assistance programs. We work hard to supply 3,600 charitable partners and programs in all of Ohio's 88 counties with food we have rescued and sourced from retailers, manufacturers, farmers, donors, and federal and state support. But we are only one part of Ohio's longstanding commitment to nutrition assistance and hunger relief. That's why we are grateful for Governor DeWine's support to enact legislation that protects access to supplemental food assistance for our neighbors in need."

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**About the Ohio Association of Foodbanks**

The Ohio Association of Foodbanks is Ohio's largest charitable response to hunger, representing Ohio's 12 Feeding America foodbanks and their 3,600 member charities including food pantries, hot meals, and other hunger relief programs. In SFY 2025, the association and its member foodbanks were able to acquire and distribute more than 281 million pounds of food and grocery items. Visit them on the web at [www.ohiofoodbanks.org](http://www.ohiofoodbanks.org).

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