



# IMPROVE SB 1



## IMPROVE SB 1: Preserve Smart Policy

In 2017, the Indiana General Assembly passed a modest increase in the SNAP asset limit to encourage saving and help people weather the benefits cliff. It is currently \$5,000 in Indiana.

It passed with resounding support: 97-0.

With rising costs, \$5,000 doesn't even stretch as far today as it did in 2017.

By reducing the SNAP asset limit, over three thousand Hoosier families who are trying to do the right thing by saving will lose SNAP.

Changes to SNAP now will require additional costs to adjust software and retrain staff; they may also increase our error rate – causing the state additional penalties from USDA that cost Hoosier taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars.

This is not a requirement of HR 1.



## IMPROVE SB 1: Reduce Expensive Red Tape

SB 1 adds administrative burden and costs to the State and complicates programs for eligible Hoosiers.

A minor adjustment to SNAP and TANF exemption language could ensure that people who are already complying with SNAP and TANF requirements don't need to do additional paperwork, fixing another likely technical error.



## IMPROVE SB 1: Prevent Ballooning Health Care Costs & Debt

Most programs do not require a person to document they have complied with the program's requirements *prior to* enrollment.

SB 1 currently requires Hoosiers to document three months of pre-enrollment compliance, which is the most severe option under HR 1.

Indiana has the option to have a **one month** pre-enrollment compliance period for the Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP).

Hoosiers waiting to become eligible or who cannot produce that paperwork will likely go uninsured, creating delays in care, medical debt, and increased costs to the health care system.



## IMPROVE SB 1: Promote Pathways to Self-Sufficiency

HR 1 allows educational activities to be combined with work, work programs, and volunteering to count toward the 80-hour work requirement. SB 1 does not allow this combination, which we believe is a technical error.

Adults juggling work, family, health issues, and rising costs may not have the capacity or resources to enroll half time - as is currently required in SB 1 - but could work toward a degree or credential more gradually.