

STATE OF DELAWARE



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
DOVER

**EXECUTIVE ORDER
NUMBER TWO**

TO: HEADS OF ALL STATE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

RE: REPORT ON THE EFFICACY OF THE SMART FOOD PROGRAM

WHEREAS, food insecurity is a significant social determinant of health, with a lack of nutrition posing serious risks to Delaware families and their outcomes; and

WHEREAS, about one in seven Delaware children face food insecurity, which can have a profound negative impact on their short- and long-term health outcomes, ability to learn, and growth and development; and

WHEREAS, approximately 120,000 Delaware residents receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to supplement their monthly food budget; and

WHEREAS, disparities in health outcomes disproportionately affect vulnerable populations in our state, exacerbating inequalities and hindering our collective progress; and

WHEREAS, Delaware became the first state in the nation to launch the Smart Food Program pilot in July 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Smart Food Program is a public-private partnership born out of the White House Challenge to End Hunger and Build Healthy Communities; and

WHEREAS, the Smart Food Program addresses food insecurity among a population disproportionately impacted by the COVID pandemic and hardest hit by economic challenges; and

WHEREAS, the Smart Food Program pilot utilizes a smart phone-based application (an “app”) that provides access to digital coupons for specific SNAP-approved foods; and

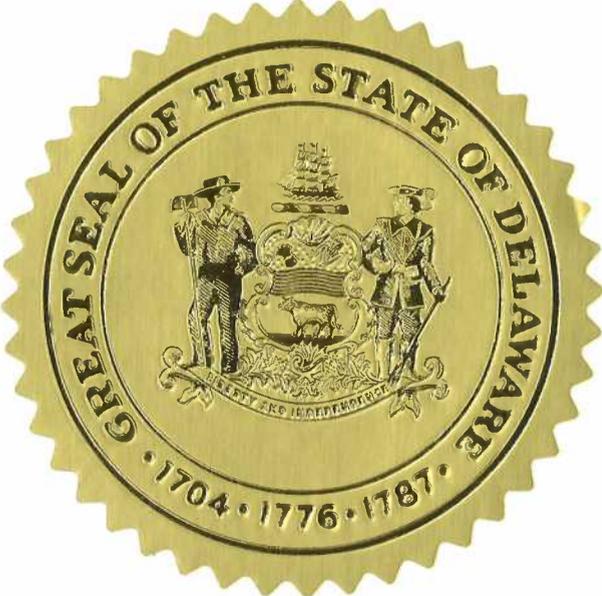
WHEREAS, the Smart Food Program app is an AI-driven program that matches surplus food with SNAP demands, and can significantly reduce food waste while ensuring that healthy food reaches families in need; and

WHEREAS, the Delaware Department of Agriculture and the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services were initially tasked with standing up the Smart Food Program pilot, working with private partners,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BETHANY A. HALL-LONG, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Delaware, do hereby **DECLARE** and **ORDER** that:

1. The Smart Food Program pilot is a critical component in the effort to combat food insecurity.
2. The Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) shall continue to implement the Smart Food Program pilot, utilizing allocated state and federal funds to launch, test and assess the efficacy of the app and overall program.
3. DHSS shall engage stakeholders in the food industry and advocacy groups that focus on food insecurity to ensure the success of the Smart Food Program pilot.
4. DHSS shall produce a report by October 15, 2025 making recommendations regarding the Smart Food Program, including:
 - a. The efficacy of the Smart Food Program, including any data collected and challenges encountered during the pilot phase.
 - b. A plan to expand the program beyond a pilot phase to availability for all SNAP recipients, with a timetable for expansion.
 - c. An estimated cost of expanding the pilot to a statewide program.
 - d. A list of any available grants or partnerships that could assist in the implementation of a statewide program.

5. The report shall be presented to the Secretary of Health and Social Services, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and the Controller General.



APPROVED this 17th day of January 2025.

Bethany A. Hall-Long
Bethany A. Hall-Long
Governor

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Secretary of State