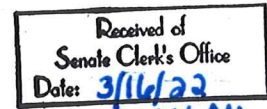




COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Andy Beshear
GOVERNOR



10:04 AM
Dane Poliforcis

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VETO MESSAGE FROM THE
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
REGARDING SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 150
OF THE 2022 REGULAR SESSION

I, Andy Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, pursuant to the authority granted under section 88 of the Kentucky Constitution, do hereby veto the following:

Senate Joint Resolution 150 of the 2022 Regular Session of the General Assembly in its entirety.

I am vetoing Senate Joint Resolution 150 because it will severely harm Kentucky families by taking food off their tables. In Kentucky, 544,000 people in 256,000 households benefit from Emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Allotments provided entirely by federal dollars. Each month during the pandemic, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has on average sent Kentucky an additional nearly \$46 million in SNAP benefits and in many months that additional amount has been between \$50 million and \$53 million. These dollars are provided because the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact supply chains, resulting in basic groceries costing more than before the pandemic.

Without the state declaration of emergency related to the COVID-19 global pandemic, the Emergency SNAP Allotments will end, leaving more than half a million Kentuckians – including Kentucky children – without the emergency assistance they need to buy healthy food for their families. This will take food from the needy, at a time when food prices are high.

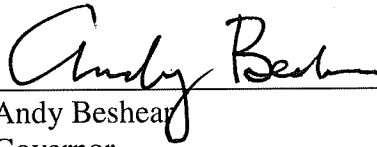
This callous act of ending these important emergency benefits comes merely a month before the April 14, 2022 date the General Assembly, in January, set to end the state of emergency in January of this year. If not renewed, the federal government's public health emergency declaration of the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will also expire on April 16, 2022.

Contrary to statements legislators made in passing Senate Joint Resolution 150, no COVID-19 restrictions exist in Kentucky. None have existed for more than six months.

Senate Joint Resolution 150 abandons Kentuckians who need help. This is not loving our neighbors as we would love ourselves, and it is not giving our children more than we receive.

For these reasons, I am vetoing Senate Joint Resolution 150.

This, the ^{16th} day of March, 2022.



Andy Beshear
Governor