

---

---

**OLR Bill Analysis**

**sHB 7021**

***AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR NUTRITION ASSISTANCE.***

**SUMMARY**

This bill appropriates \$10 million to the Department of Social Services from the General Fund in FY 26 for its Supplemental Nutrition Commodities Assistance Program. By law, this program gives funding for Connecticut Foodshare (formerly named the Connecticut Food Bank) to buy nutritious food in bulk and distribute it to soup kitchens, food pantries, and emergency shelters.

Starting in FY 27, the bill requires the program's appropriation to increase by at least 3% annually, within available appropriations. Connecticut Foodshare must use at least 15% of these funds to buy produce or other products from Connecticut farmers.

Under current law, soup kitchens, food pantries, and emergency shelters must pay Connecticut Foodshare five cents per pound of food they receive to cover Connecticut Foodshare's costs for buying and distributing the food. The bill allows, rather than requires, Connecticut Foodshare to charge this handling fee.

The bill also makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2025

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 23    Nay 0    (03/04/2025)