- 1 A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY IN FULTON
- 2 COUNTY, GEORGIA DUE TO THE SUSPENSION OF SNAP BENEFITS AND THE
- 3 RESULTING FOOD INSECURITY CRISIS; TO AUTHORIZE UP TO \$4.4M OF THE
- 4 \$69M IN UNDERRUNS BE ALLOCATED TO ADDRESS THE CRISIS, AND FOR
- 5 **OTHER PURPOSES**.
- 6 **WHEREAS**, as of November 1, 2025, federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance
- 7 Program (SNAP) benefits have been suspended nationwide due to the current
- 8 government shutdown; and
- 9 **WHEREAS**, Governor Brian Kemp and state leaders have declined to utilize the
- 10 State's \$14.6 billion surplus to assist families who will lose SNAP benefits, choosing not
- to provide emergency relief to the more than 1.3 million Georgians who rely on SNAP
- 12 benefits each month; and
- WHEREAS, SNAP benefits are a critical source of food assistance for low-
- income children and families, as well as seniors and veterans throughout Fulton County,
- and their suspension constitutes an immediate threat to the health and welfare of
- 16 County residents; and
- WHEREAS, data from the Atlanta Community Food Bank (ACFB) and Fulton
- 18 County Performance Dashboard shows that prior to the suspension of SNAP benefits,
- 19 Fulton County residents were already collectively facing an annual food budget shortfall
- 20 exceeding \$79 million; and
- 21 WHEREAS, 145,949 Fulton County households received SNAP benefits in 2023,
- representing approximately 13.5% of all residents and the ACFB reports an increase in
- 23 demand for food of over 70% since 2022; and
- 24 **WHEREAS**, using the cost model provided on the ACFB website of "\$1 helps

- 1 provide 3 meals", the **minimum** cost to feed Fulton County citizens who have lost their
- 2 SNAP benefits for the month of November is \$4,378,470; and
- WHEREAS, Fulton County can access funds to address the hunger crisis from
- 4 the expected 2025 fiscal year underruns of approximately \$69 million; and
- 5 **WHEREAS**, Fulton County currently grants funds to nine organizations that
- 6 address food insecurity including Atlanta Community Food Bank, Open Hand, and
- 7 Hosea Feeds the Hungry; and
- 8 **WHEREAS**, Fulton County serves congregant meals to seniors, some of whom
- 9 are SNAP recipients, at its senior centers across the county, and makes fresh produce
- 10 available through its "Fulton Fresh" program; and
- WHEREAS, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners finds that extraordinary
- and immediate action is necessary to address the food insecurity crisis resulting from
- the loss of SNAP benefits.
- 14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fulton County Board of
- 15 Commissioners hereby declares a State of Emergency in Fulton County, Georgia, due
- to the disruption of SNAP benefits and the ensuing hunger crisis.
- 17 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that pursuant to the authority granted under GA
- 18 Const. Art. 9, § 2, ¶ I(a), O.C.G.A. § 38-3-28(b), and Fulton County Code § 1-117, the
- 19 Board authorizes the activation of the County's emergency powers to ensure the
- 20 continuation of food access for residents in need.
- 21 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners

1	directs the County Manager to identify the most effective strategies, partner		
2	organizations, and resource allocations to alleviate food insecurity resulting from the		
3	suspension of SNAP benefits and authorizes spending of up to \$4.4M of the \$69M in		
4	2025 budget underruns to support these efforts.		
5	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this local state of emergency shall remain in		
6	effect up to sixty (60) days from the date of adoption and may be renewed or		
7	suspended by the Board.		
8	BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall become effective		
9	immediately upon adoption, and all resolutions and parts of resolutions in conflict		
10	herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.		
11	PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County,		
12	Georgia, on this 5th Day of November 2025.		
13 14			
15			
16 17	FULTON COUNTY		
18	BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS		
19 20	Sponsored by:		
20	Sponsored by:		
21			
22 23			
24	Dana Barrett, Commissioner		
25 26	District 3		
27			
28 29	ATTEST:		
30	AIILSI.		
31			
32			

1		Tonya R. Grier,
2		Clerk to the Commission
3		
4		
5	APPROVED AS TO FORM:	
6		
7		
8		
9	Y. Soo Jo, County Attorney	