



Governor Mike Dunleavy
STATE OF ALASKA

November 3, 2025

The Honorable Gary Stevens
Senate President
Alaska State Legislature
Capitol Building, Room 111
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

The Honorable Bryce Edgmon
Speaker of the House
Alaska State Legislature
Capitol Building, Room 208
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

President Stevens and Speaker Edgmon:

On November 3, 2025, I declared a state disaster emergency for the State of Alaska, following the shutdown of the federal government and the disruption of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The declaration authorizes funds to be made available for an emergency food assistance program, necessary response actions, and administrative expenses.

Beginning on or about October 1, 2025, a federal government shutdown has threatened the funding and administration of the federal SNAP program. This disruption poses a direct threat to the health, safety, and welfare of many vulnerable Alaskans who rely on these benefits for their food security. The interruption of this assistance constitutes a failure of a critical lifeline system.

In response to this imminent threat, the Department of Health and other state agencies are coordinating the implementation of a state-led disaster public assistance program to mitigate the impacts on our citizens. This will include providing, for the duration of the disaster declaration, direct financial assistance up to \$5.0 million per week to SNAP-eligible Alaskans for the month of November, and, if needed, direct support to local food banks and pantries not to exceed \$10.0 million to provide food to eligible Alaskans.

It is unknown when the federal government shutdown may be resolved. Thus, I am limiting expenditures for this initial disaster plan to \$10.0 million and will submit revised financing plans on a weekly basis if the federal shutdown continues or SNAP benefits are addressed by the federal government.

This letter serves as the financing plan required under AS 26.23.025(a). Funds regularly appropriated to State and local agencies and funds available in the Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) are insufficient to manage this disaster. Accordingly, to provide the funding necessary to meet this disaster emergency, I have, in accordance with AS 26.23.050(b)(1) authorized the transfer of monies as set forth below in order to meet this disaster emergency.

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Page 2 of 2

In fiscal year 2026, \$21.8 million general fund match was appropriated to the Department of Environmental Conservation as a capital project appropriation for Village Safe Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Projects (§ 1, ch. 12, SLA 2025). After an initial review of the project and evaluation of existing projects underway with prior year funding, the Office of Management and Budget has determined that \$10.0 million is currently available to be transferred from the Village Safe Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Project to the DRF.

During the 34th second regular legislative session, a supplemental request for funding will be submitted to replenish the DRF and return funding to the original appropriation.

Sincerely,



Mike Dunleavy
Governor

Enclosures: Disaster Declaration
Draft Legislative Concurrence Letter

cc: All Members of the 34th Alaska State Legislature
Lacey Sanders, Director, Office of Management and Budget
Jordan Shilling, Legislative Director, Office of the Governor