



ALLISON BALL
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

September 22, 2026

Governor Andrew Beshear
Office of the Governor
501 High Street, 2nd Floor
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Secretary Steven Stack
Cabinet for Health and Family Services
275 E. Main St.
Frankfort, Kentucky 40621

Dear Governor Beshear and Secretary Stack,

On August 13, I put your administration on notice of President Trump's crackdown on waste, fraud, and abuse within taxpayer-funded public benefits programs. I urged you to take this crackdown seriously and root out the problems within your administration that are costing Kentuckians money, putting Kentucky's federal funding at risk, and crippling the public benefits programs that Kentucky's most vulnerable citizens rely on.

We received nothing in response from your administration. No acknowledgement. No corrective action plan. In fact, after our letter, your agency's administration of the SNAP program in particular got worse, putting Kentucky at serious risk of paying a \$60 million penalty.

As you know, my Commonwealth Office of the Ombudsman reviews your administration's management of a variety of public benefits programs. Using the exact same methodology as the Ombudsman did when it was under your authority, the Ombudsman has determined that your administration is currently exceeding the federally prescribed 6% payment error rate threshold in administering the SNAP program. If you do not bring this error rate down below that 6% threshold before the end of this federal fiscal year, Kentucky taxpayers will be forced to foot a \$60 million bill because of your errors.

As I did in August, I urge you again to take this situation seriously and fix your administration's management of SNAP. As we always do, we will continue to attempt to inform you of issues like this in hopes of protecting Kentucky's taxpayers and eradicating waste, fraud, and abuse within your administration.

Sincerely,

Allison Ball
Kentucky Auditor of Public Accounts

