

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 10, 2025

The Honorable Brian Kemp  
Governor, State of Georgia  
206 Washington Street  
Suite 203, State Capitol  
Atlanta, GA 30334

Governor Kemp,

We write to request that you take action to ensure that participants in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, also known as WIC, are not unnecessarily impacted in Georgia by the federal government shutdown.

As you know, President Trump and Congressional Republicans have failed to avoid a government shutdown despite controlling the White House as well as both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. We ask that you use state funds to provide temporary funding to ensure that the 245,000 women, infants, and children enrolled in the WIC program stay enrolled and maintain their benefits. If action is not taken, the Georgia Department of Public Health estimates that WIC will begin to close offices and suspend benefits in our state within the next two to three weeks<sup>1</sup>.

Similar to previous shutdowns and in line with past precedent, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has made clear that State agencies are permitted to use State appropriated funds to support WIC program costs (including operations during a federal lapse in appropriations). Once Federal funding becomes available, WIC program costs incurred during this lapse may be eligible for Federal reimbursement...<sup>2</sup>

With an estimated \$14 to \$16 billion dollars in the General Reserve Fund, Georgia is well positioned to ensure that WIC participants in our state are fully protected during the length of any government shutdown<sup>3</sup>. WIC families in Georgia will be negatively impacted by the government shutdown if your administration fails to take the necessary action at the appropriate time.

We ask that you publicly commit to taking all possible steps and that you make funding available to ensure that pregnant women, nursing mothers, and young families with infants can continue to enroll in the program and that current participants continue to receive baby food, formula, and essential health screenings without interruption.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.11alive.com/article/money/consumer/georgia-officials-wic-benefits-expected-to-continue-for-the-next-2-to-3-weeks-amid-government-shutdown/85-3b088543-433c-4558-a334-e07df0843103>

<sup>2</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/13-gJsa-UkNbW6JmOQ3F0CVQ99pfyts4N/view?usp=sharing>

<sup>3</sup> <https://gbpi.org/georgia-budget-trends-primer-for-state-fiscal-year-2026/>



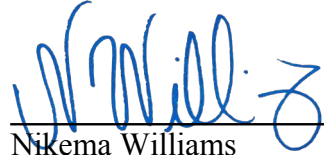
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Lucy McBath  
Member of Congress



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Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.  
Member of Congress



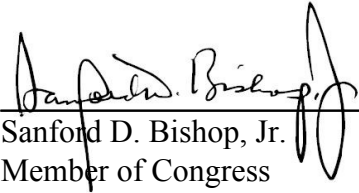
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Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress



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David Scott  
Member of Congress



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Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
Member of Congress