

GA Food Security Advisory Council

SB 537: Food Insecurity Eradication Act

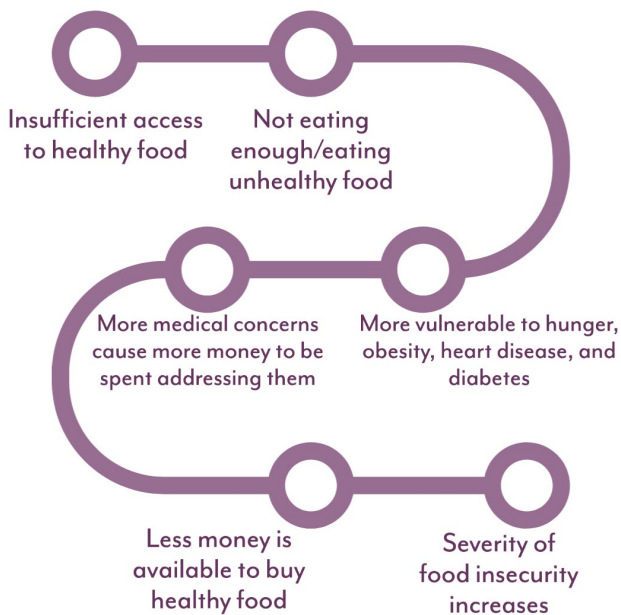
Georgians need food security to be healthy and productive. The current food security system provides emergency relief, but not long-term strategies. To improve, collaboration between government, public, private, communities, and non-profits are needed.

1 in 8 Georgians
Food Insecure



Numbers haven't changed since 1990s

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities analysis of USDA data.



The cycle of food insecurity.
<https://www.acfb.org/stories-of-hunger/>

SB 537: Establish an Advisory Council

- Recommended by the Senate Committee on Improving Access to Health Foods and Eliminating Food Deserts
- Eliminates gaps and duplications
- Supports and expands what works
- Strengthens community partnerships

Fast Facts

Current US food policy is based on a [1969 White House Conference](#).

Food insecurity is linked to chronic problems such as [diabetes, hypertension, and depression](#).

The cycle of lost wages, lost school days, and poor health cost the US Economy approximately \$165 Billion annually.

SB 537: Details

Representatives from Agriculture, Labor, Schools, DFACS, GA Chamber of Commerce, universities, health systems, community development, farmers markets, science, food policy councils, grocery stores, local leadership, farmers, food bank operators, and food pantry operators.

1. Understand regulatory solutions to WIC barriers
2. Explore tax incentives for new food stores in deserts
3. Maximize existing education programs
4. Maximize existing funding efforts for food relief
5. Expand the number of farmers markets that take SNAP
6. Encourage the use of co-ops and community gardens
7. Increase collaborations between Georgia government, nonprofit, and private entities