



Date of Notice: August 13, 2021

## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

### PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING

In accordance with Rhode Island General Laws (R.I. Gen. Law 42-35), as amended (specifically Section 42-35.2.11 of the Administrative Procedures Act) and pursuant to the provisions of Chapters 42-12-23 of the General Laws of Rhode Island as amended, the Department of Human Services (DHS) hereby proposes to adopt an amendment for the following program:

**RICR Title 218 – Rhode Island Department of Human Services**  
**Chapter 20 – Individual and Family Support Programs**  
**Part 1 – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program**

The Department of Human Services (DHS) hereby proposes to file a Direct Final Rule to amend the following Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. The DHS does not expect this proposed amendment to the rule to be controversial and does not anticipate any objections. This proposed amendment will implement the following, per Federal Regulations:

- 1.16 (E) Amended language per Federal regulation pertaining to the expungement of benefits after 9 months of inactivity.
- Added the immediate expungement of benefits upon the verification of all deceased household members.
- Notification will be provided to households prior to any expungements.

This proposed rule is accessible on the R.I. Secretary of State website (<https://rules.sos.ri.gov/regulations/part/218-20-00-1>), on the Department of Human Services website (<https://dhs.ri.gov/regulations/proposed-rules-and-regulations>) or available in hard copy upon request (401-462-2018 or RI Relay, dial 711).

If no formal objection is received on or before September 12, 2021, the Department of Human Services will file the amendment without opportunity for public comment. All written objections should be sent to Karen Vartebedian, Office of Policy Analysis, Research & Development, Department of Human Services, Louis Pasteur Building Bldg. #57, 25 Howard Avenue, Cranston, RI 02920 or [karen.vartebedian@dhs.ri.gov](mailto:karen.vartebedian@dhs.ri.gov) and must be received no later than 11:59 PM September 12, 2021.

The Department of Human Services does not discriminate against individuals based on race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, religious belief, political belief or handicap in acceptance for or provision of services or employment in its programs or activities.