



STATE OF INDIANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
State House, Second Floor
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Mike Braun
Governor

September 16, 2026

The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary of Agriculture
US Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Rollins:

Thank you once again for selecting Indianapolis as a new regional hub for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). In addition to bringing government closer to its constituents, this announcement continues to be an economic driver here in our state. As you well know, Indianapolis sits at the intersection of human health, animal health, and plant science, or regionally known as One Health, making it a pivotal location for USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Implementation and Oversight functions.

I was concerned to learn that, on September 14, 2026, a federal judge in the Northern District of California issued an administrative stay related to your reorganization plan. Every delay in moving SNAP to the Indianapolis hub risks diminishing an important opportunity for Indiana and the nation: putting federal food-security expertise at the center of an ecosystem where agriculture, food, and health are already converging.

The time is right for USDA's reorganization effort in Indianapolis. The city's proximity to Purdue University and Indiana University poses immense opportunity for the Department to capitalize on nation leading research in the agriculture and medical fields. Indiana is also home to a robust bioscience industry, which adds to the State's unique ecosystem. Indiana's bioscience industry brings \$125 billion in economic impact to the State, reinforcing the direction of our state's economic development strategy and complementing my recent \$1 billion commitment to accelerating investment and job creation across Indiana's agriculture and life-sciences sectors.

For each federal worker moved to Indiana, our analysis shows that an additional 2.5 jobs are supported. Accordingly, moving 150 USDA positions to Indiana would generate approximately \$55 million in annual regional economic impact and support 363 jobs. Similarly, at 300 positions, the estimated annual impact rises to \$111 million and 725 jobs supported. With SNAP based in Indianapolis, USDA employees would be positioned within an ecosystem where agricultural production, food, supply chains, nutrition and healthcare are closely connected.

As a top agricultural producing state, Indiana cannot emphasize enough the local, state, and federal benefits of having a regional USDA hub near the One Health district. We continue to look forward to partnering with you in this effort to bring the federal seat of American nutritional policy to the sole location where plant, animal, and human health global headquarters coexist.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Braun". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mike Braun

Governor