

We, the XXX [*approx. number of org signers*] national, state, and local organizations representing communities across the country, urge the House and Senate to develop a Farm Bill that ensures that the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is protected and strengthened and that benefit adequacy, equitable access, and program administration remain core tenets of the program. We will oppose any Farm Bill — including the House Agriculture Committee’s Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024 — which proposes cuts to SNAP including restricting future Thrifty Food Plan benefit adjustments, nearly \$30 billion in cuts over 10 years according to the Congressional Budget Office, in addition to provisions outsourcing administrative functions currently required to be performed by public sector merit employees. The bill also paves the way for future efforts to undermine the equity and autonomy in how SNAP participants can use benefits in ways that meet their cultural, dietary, and health needs.

Strengthening SNAP and the commodity assistance programs ensures that the [more than 41 million people](#) who continue to rely on SNAP benefits every month to put food on the table — during a time of increased rent and health care costs — can access and afford the nutrition they need to thrive.

The Farm Bill presents a unique opportunity for Congress to make progress against food insecurity and hunger, especially considering that food insecurity touches people in every Congressional District. Strengthening SNAP and the commodity assistance programs — The Emergency Food Assistance Program, Commodity Supplemental Food Program, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program, and the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program — will go a long way to end poverty-related hunger.

Every dollar invested in SNAP is a dollar we invest into our nation and its people. And this investment has a strong ripple effect. Studies show that increases in SNAP benefits directly correlate to improved health outcomes and decreased visits to emergency rooms, which decreases Medicaid costs. In addition to its health, nutrition, and overall improved well-being attributes, SNAP also supports local economies — each dollar in federally funded SNAP benefits generates between \$1.50 and \$1.80 in economic activity during a weak economy.

Yet, despite its many strengths, we expect a lot of output from a program where the average benefit is only \$6 per person per day. During a time of sharply increased costs at grocery stores and other living expenses, it is ill-advised to weaken SNAP and the commodity programs as it will only deepen America’s hunger crisis.

SNAP is our nation’s most impactful anti-hunger program. Congress should ensure that SNAP benefits reach all those in need, including households with children, older adults, veterans, and people with disabilities, and residents of the U.S. territories, so that all can thrive. Equally important, Congress must protect SNAP from damaging policies that would undermine its effectiveness and increase hunger and food insecurity. This includes ensuring that future Thrifty Food Plan adjustments allow benefits to keep pace with the cost of a healthy diet based on factors such as the latest dietary guidance and food consumption patterns.

Historically, the Farm Bill has been a bipartisan effort that has prioritized improving the lives of millions of households who struggle to get the nutrition they need. We urge Congress to return to this core Farm Bill principle and only advance a bold and equitable Farm Bill that protects and strengthens SNAP and the commodity assistance programs that support millions of households in every corner of our country.