

Protect SNAP: A lifeline for Americans

In the new Farm Bill, RESULTS urges you to protect and strengthen SNAP. This means expanding access to the program and increasing benefit amounts. RESULTS also urges you to oppose any changes to SNAP that restrict eligibility and food choice, or decrease benefits.

The **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)** is a critical tool that helps millions of Americans afford nutritious food. Everyone deserves to live healthier lives. An important piece of healthy communities is access to nourishing foods.

SNAP currently serves nearly 40 million people each month. Eighty percent of SNAP users are older Americans, families with kids, and people with disabilities. This program reduces poverty. It also improves community and health and local economies. The need for food programs is growing. Congress must protect and expand SNAP.

Please speak to House Agriculture Committee Chair Thompson and ranking member Craig / Senate Agriculture Committee Chair Boozman and ranking member Klobuchar. Urge them to support these policies for SNAP in the next Farm Bill:

Increase benefit amounts. The average SNAP benefit is about \$7 per day. Recent small increases in the benefit still fall short of what's needed for a basic, nutritious diet. Congress should increase benefit amounts. At the same time, it should reject any changes to how benefits are calculated that reduce current or future benefits.

Remove harmful work requirements. Work requirements stop many from receiving critical nutrition benefits. Older Americans and parents especially encounter barriers due to work requirements. They also negatively affect formerly incarcerated people and other Americans with low incomes. Congress must remove harmful work requirements for those who need SNAP the most.

Protect food choice options. Many communities lack access to nutritious, fresh foods. (Sometimes, these places are called "food deserts"). Fresh foods are also more expensive. Banning foods SNAP recipients can buy does not lead to healthier eating. It leads to greater hunger. Often, packaged food or hot meals at grocery stores are the best or only options available. The most effective way to promote healthy eating is to increase SNAP benefits.

Do not use SNAP as an ATM. SNAP is an effective and efficient program that helps millions of Americans put food on the table. Cutting SNAP will create significant hardship. Oppose efforts to cut or restrict SNAP to pay for other policies such as tax cuts for the wealthy.