

Strategies to



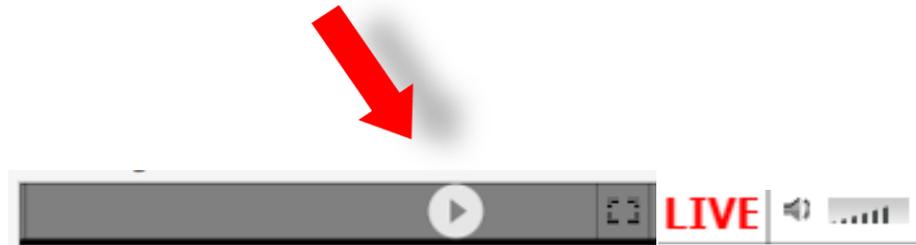
**SNAP Proposals that Take Away
Food Assistance from Millions**

April 24, 2018

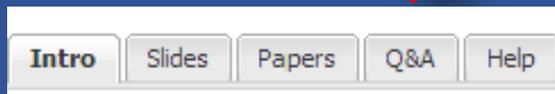


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Intro

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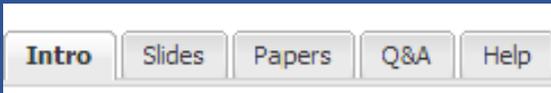
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Strategies to



**SNAP Proposals that Take Away
Food Assistance from Millions**

April 24, 2018

Co-sponsored by



Ellen Teller, Moderator



Ellen Teller is Director of Government Affairs at the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC). She joined FRAC in 1986, and previously served as an attorney at the American Bar Association, Center for Science in the Public Interest and the Consumer Federation of America. She is the Board Chair of the Coalition on Human Needs.

Stacy Dean



Stacy Dean is the Vice President for Food Assistance Policy at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

Dean joined CBPP in 1997 as a Senior Policy Analyst working on national policy issues such as the federal budget, SNAP, and benefits for immigrants.

Previously, she served as a budget analyst at the Office of Management and Budget.

Kate Leone



Kate Leone is the senior vice president of government relations and a member of the Feeding America executive team.

Prior to joining Feeding America, Kate served as general counsel for U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen's (D-NH) office. Before that, she spent 12 years as the chief health counsel to Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid (D-NV).

Ellen Vollinger



Ellen Vollinger is FRAC's legal director. She has responsibility for directing FRAC's advocacy on behalf of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP/Food Stamps).

Her prior positions include serving as director of the nonprofit National Committee for Full Employment as well as a practicing attorney with the Washington, DC law firm of Ross, Dixon and Masback.

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Stacy Dean
Vice President
for Food
Assistance
Policy, CBPP

Overview of SNAP proposals in the House Agriculture Committee's farm bill

What's At Stake?

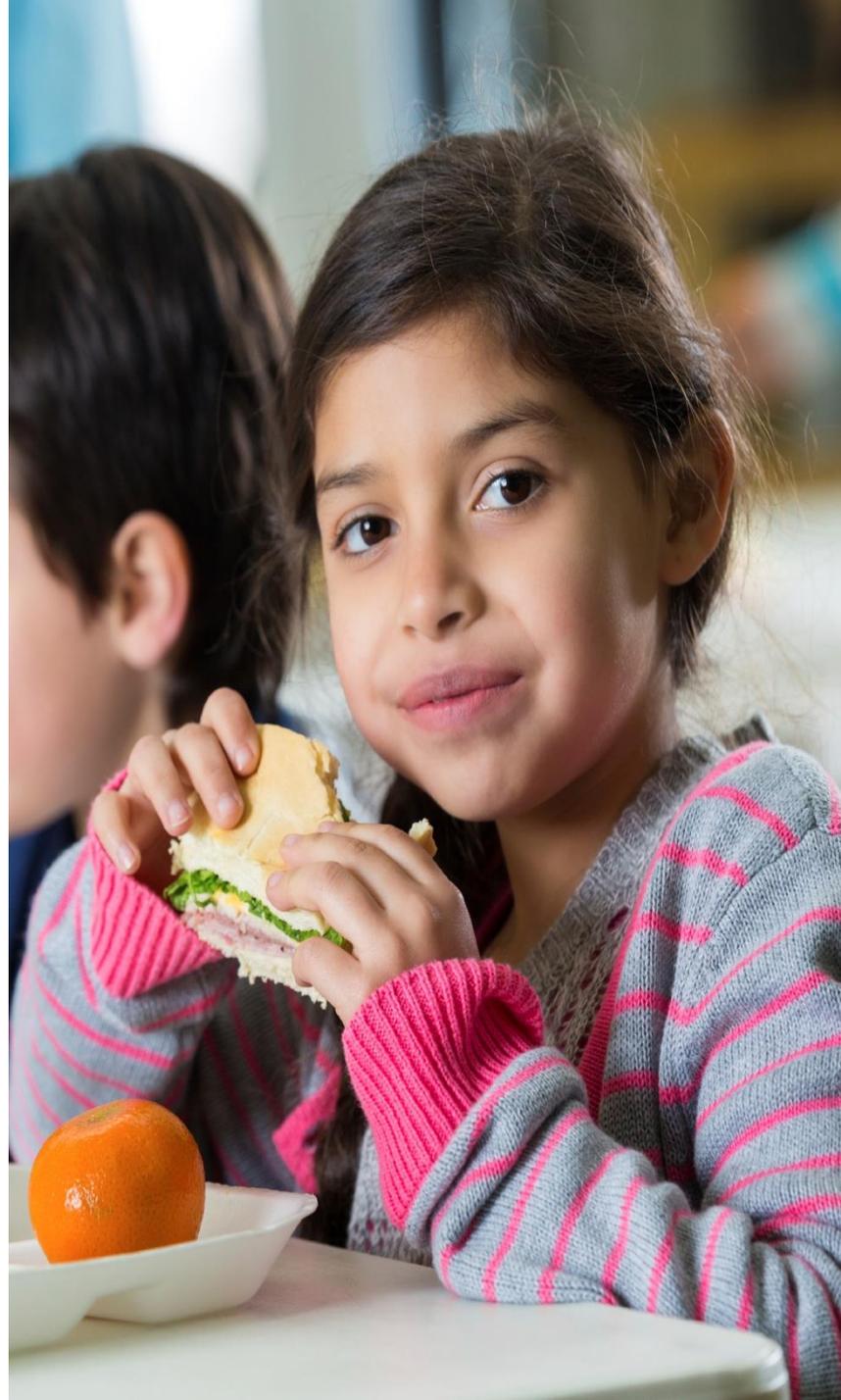


“House Speaker Paul Ryan, who has long sought to shrink the social safety net, lauded the farm bill advanced last week by the House Agriculture Committee, H.R. 2, calling it ‘the precise thing we need to do to get people from welfare to work.’ Ryan said Thursday he sees the farm bill as part of ‘the final installment’ of the House Republican agenda.”

Politico | April 23, 2018

The House Agriculture Committee's 2018 Farm Bill breaks the long history of bipartisan commitment to ensure struggling families across the country have enough to eat.

- ✓ SNAP works – it keeps more than 8 million people out of poverty.
- ✓ SNAP's impact on children can last a lifetime.
- ✓ SNAP is a first-responder.



The House
Agriculture
Committee's
2018 farm
bill is:

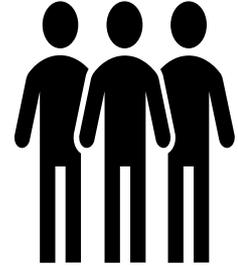
1. Harmful
2. Unworkable
3. Untested
4. Wasteful

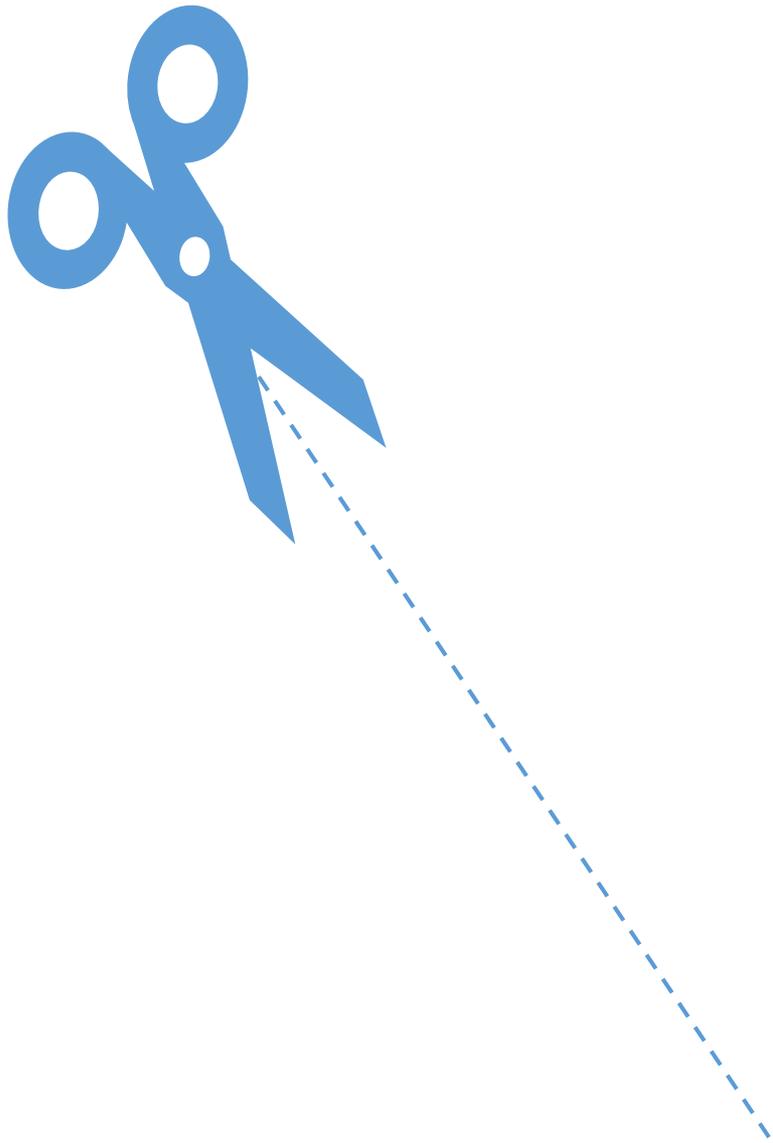
Harmful

The bill cuts food assistance to nearly every type of SNAP participant, including:

- children and their parents
- people with disabilities
- older workers
- people who are working or in between jobs

It rolls back decades of bipartisan effort to make SNAP more accessible, especially to workers.





Unworkable

The bill uses much of the money it gets from cutting SNAP to create a massive new bureaucracy that will likely fail to help people find jobs but is guaranteed to take food assistance from struggling households.

CONAWAY FARM BILL WOULD PROVIDE JUST \$30 PER PERSON PER MONTH FOR EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE – FAR LESS THAN WHAT’S NEEDED

Service	Average Per-Person Cost	Sufficient Farm Bill Funding to Cover?
RESOURCE ROOM VISIT	\$16	
STRUCTURED ASSESSMENT	\$13	
JOB CLUB (PER SESSION)	\$38	
WORKSHOP	\$54	
COUNSELOR MEETING	\$143	
SKILLS TRAINING	\$3,490	

Source: Mathematica Policy Research Gold-Standard Evaluation of WIA/WIOA

CENTER ON BUDGET AND POLICY PRIORITIES | CBPP.ORG

Untested

Rather than waiting for evidence from innovative state pilot programs that are testing what works to help SNAP participants get jobs and succeed, this partisan Farm Bill pushes forward with an **untested** proposal that is likely to fail.

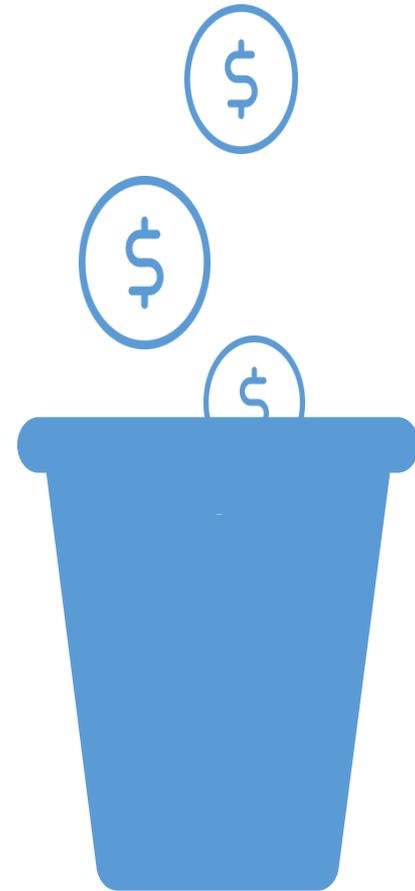
Similarly, the bill would mandate child support cooperation – a provision states have opted not to adopt because of its costs and unproven benefits relative to risks.



Wasteful

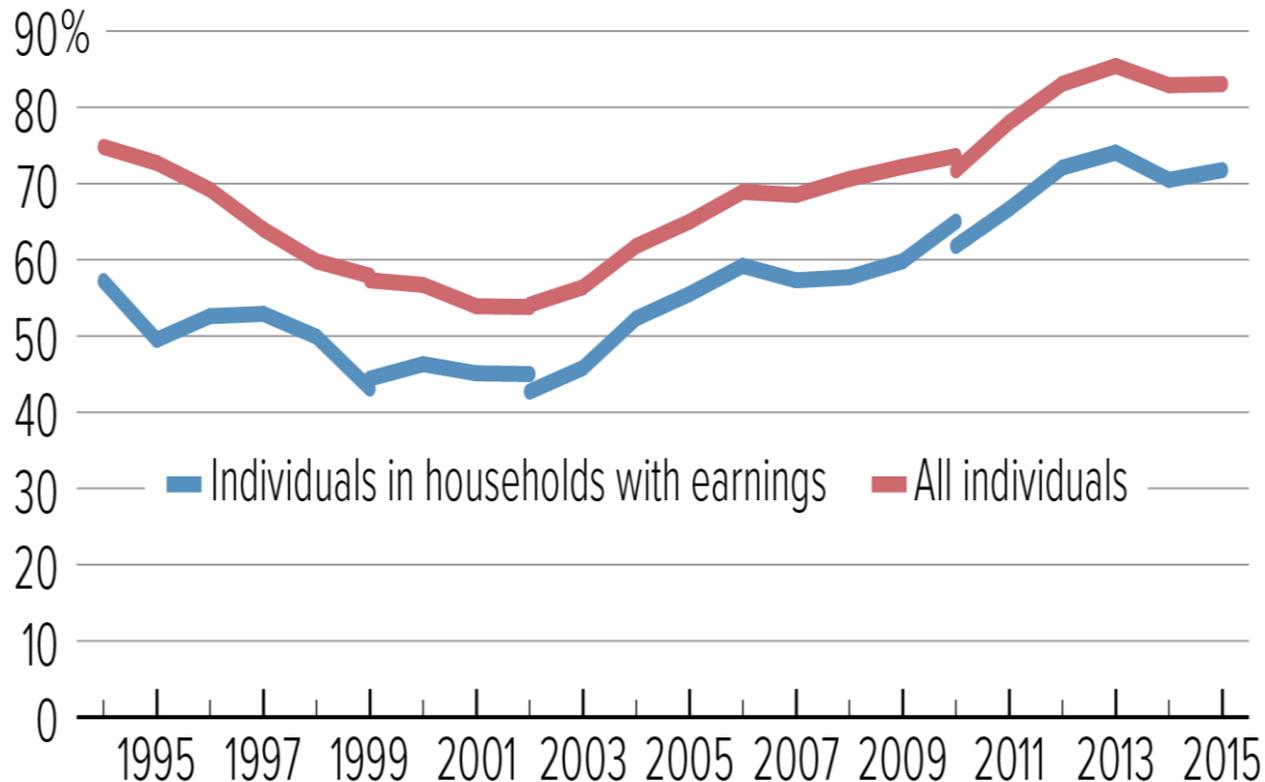
The bill would waste billions of taxpayer dollars on:

- employment services for those who don't need them because they are simply between jobs and will find work again soon on their own;
- the types of programs that are known to be ineffective at improving employment and earning outcomes; and
- a bureaucratic system to keep track of it all.



Would Undermine Progress on Improving Access

National SNAP Participation Rates Have Risen



Bottom Line

The House Agriculture Committee's 2018 Farm Bill should not break the long history of bipartisan commitment to ensure struggling families across the country have enough to eat.

Strengthening SNAP, not cutting it, is the right way forward.

Kate Leone



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Prior to joining Feeding America, Kate served as general counsel for U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen's (D-NH) office. Before that, she spent 12 years as the chief health counsel to Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid (D-NV).

Charity Can't Fill the Gap

Feeding 4.2 billion
America = meals a year

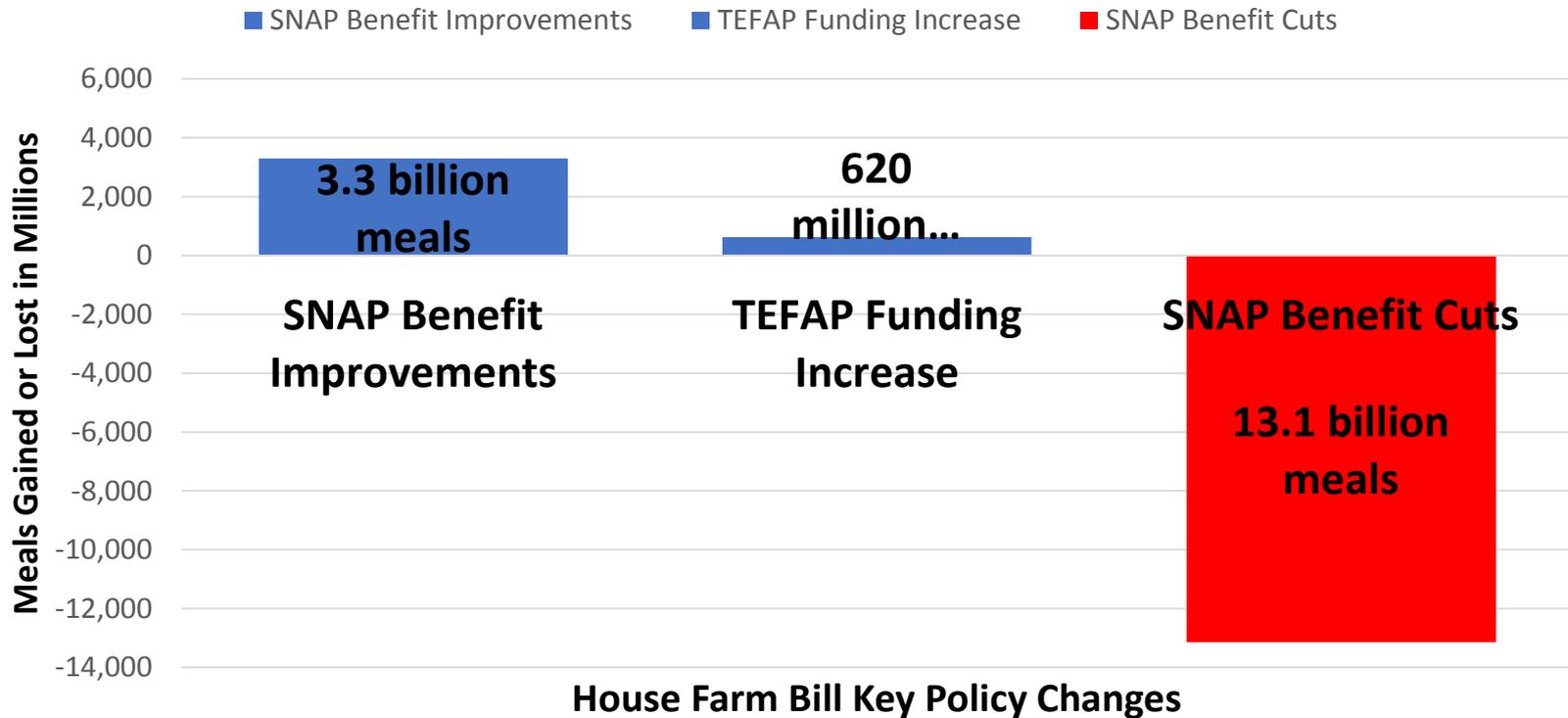


House Farm Bill: Meals Lost to SNAP Cuts

SNAP Meals Lost (net): 9.8 billion

TEFAP Meals Gained: 620 million

Meals Lost and Gained, over 10 years



Take Action Now!

Recess Advocacy:

- Reach out to House members in district
- Tell them charity can't fill the gap
- Urge a no vote on HR 2 & a bipartisan process moving forward

National Call in Day May 8:

- Use Feeding America's Toll Free Number to Call Congress May 8 to Urge a No Vote

Call: 888-398-8702



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Her prior positions include serving as director of the nonprofit National Committee for Full Employment as well as a practicing attorney with the Washington, DC law firm of Ross, Dixon and Masback.

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Strategies to Stop SNAP Proposals That Take Away Food Assistance From Millions

April 24, 2018

Spring 2018 is Critical

Farm Bill is due for reauthorization by Sep. 30 (or extension).

House Bill	Senate Bill
The House could vote on Agriculture Committee bill (H.R. 2) this spring.	The content and timing for the Senate Agriculture Committee bill is being shaped now. Timing could be this spring.
The bill needs the majority of the House to pass.	Committee leaders say they want a bill that can get 60 (or 70) votes in the Senate
End game? The Conference committee will work out differences between the House and Senate bills. The final bill would need approval in both the House and Senate.	

All Members Matter

- Farm Bills need votes from diverse factions in Congress
- Bipartisan



- Urban, rural,
- Priorities around various titles and stakeholders
- Swing votes and the intensity of supporters matter

Messages



#SNAPtoEndHunger

- Vote “No” on H.R. 2 and SNAP cuts.
- Support a Farm Bill that protects and strengthens SNAP.
- Reject a Farm Bill that cuts SNAP and takes food out of the refrigerators and off the tables of needy Americans.

Take Action

- **Call all House Members NOW and on May 8** to urge them to oppose H.R. 2; dial 888-398-8702 via Feeding America's toll free line
- **Meet with House Members and Senators** while they are home during the recess (April 30–May 6).
- **Invite Members to visit sites** where SNAP clients are served. http://www.frac.org/wp-content/uploads/congress_site_visit_opportunities.pdf

Alert the Media

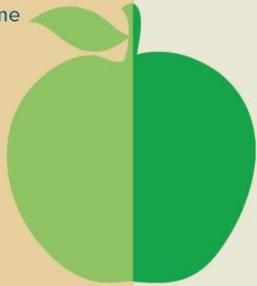
SNAP STRENGTHS

SNAP REDUCES HUNGER

and food insecurity by providing low-income people necessary food money.

SNAP IMPROVES DIETARY INTAKE

and health, especially among children and with lasting effects.



SNAP BOLSTERS LOCAL ECONOMIES

by increasing money spent for food at local retailers.

SNAP LIFTS MILLIONS OF PEOPLE out of poverty.



Write a letter-to-the-editor that shows the many strengths of SNAP and how cuts would do harm to your community.

See resources from RESULTS:
<http://www.results.org/take-action/action-center?vvsrc=/campaigns/54070/respond>

Get Vocal on Social

Sample Tweets:

- We agree with@fractweets - if it's not broken, why fix it? The proposed #FarmBill attacks SNAP and millions of struggling families. (link to a resource)
- @HouseGOP @HouseDemocrats: vote NO to taking food away from working families in proposed #FarmBill cuts to SNAP (link to a resource)
- @SenateGOP @SenateDems: vulnerable, low-income families need you to strengthen SNAP & speak out/fight hunger in the Senate #FarmBill (link to a resource)

Share Twitter handles of Members of Congress. <http://www.chn.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Representative-Twitter-Handles.pdf>

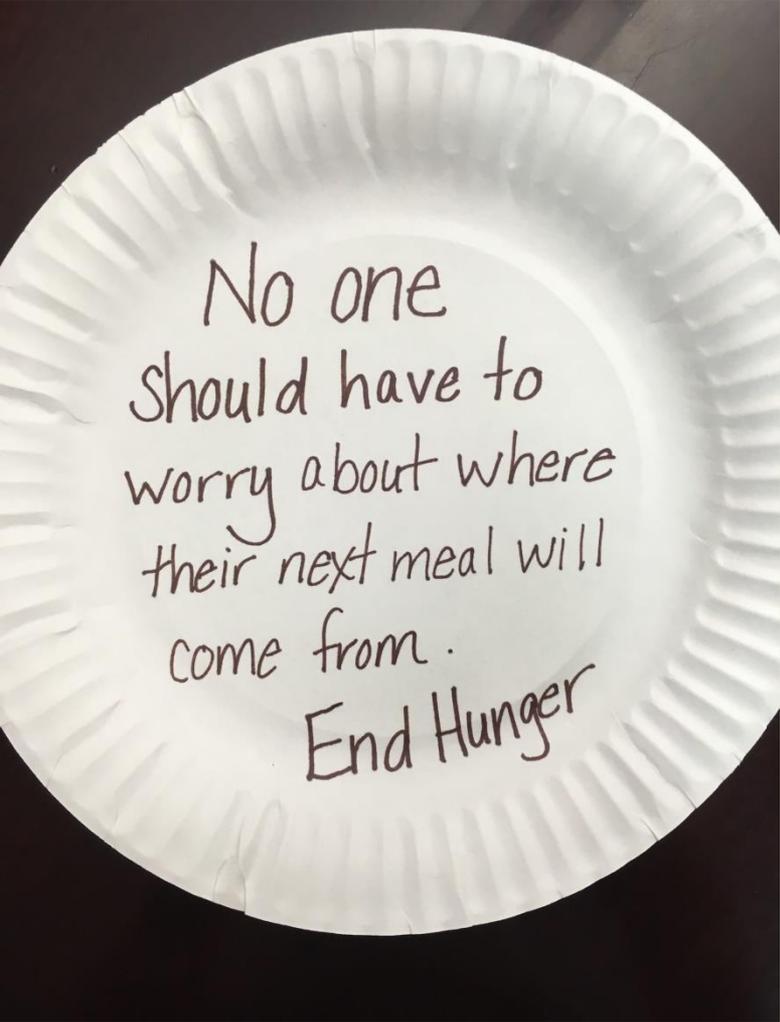
SNAP Cuts Hurt Real People



- elderly
- people with disabilities
- homeless
- military members and veterans
- unemployed
- underemployed
- low-wage workers
- working families with children

Who SNAP Cuts Harm

- Let Members of Congress, media, and the public know who loses food out of the refrigerator when SNAP benefits are cut.
- Help current and former SNAP participants tell their stories.
- Collect messages via paper plates, deliver them to Members of Congress, and publicize via social media.
- Invite Members of Congress to sit in on 2-1-1 calls to hear first-hand the struggles that low-income people face.



No one
should have to
worry about where
their next meal will
come from.
End Hunger

**Tell Congress
to Vote “NO”
on Farm Bill
that Cuts
SNAP**



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