

June 26, 2025

Dear Chairman Thompson, Ranking Member Craig, Chairman Boozman, Ranking Member Klobuchar, Chairman Walberg, Ranking Member Scott, Speaker Johnson, Democratic Leader Jeffries, Majority Leader Thune, and Democratic Leader Schumer:

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) cuts currently under consideration in budget reconciliation would not only threaten the food security and health of vulnerable individuals and communities, but they would also harm the federal child nutrition programs.

The impact of the proposed SNAP cuts on the child nutrition programs is already being seen. On June 22, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott's line-item [vetoed \\$60 million](#) in funding meant to implement the Summer EBT Program in fiscal year 2027, citing the uncertain landscape of SNAP funding as the reason. The State's decision to opt of Summer EBT means that over 3.7 million children from low-income households in Texas will not receive \$450 million in grocery benefits to combat summer hunger.

Summer EBT is a proven strategy for addressing childhood food insecurity, which [research](#) shows increases during the summer months; 37 states, Washington D.C., all U.S. territories, and five Tribes are participating in 2025. States are required to cover 50 percent of the administrative cost to participate. Shifting additional SNAP costs to states has already led Texas to reconsider operating the program and could jeopardize participation in other states.

In addition to terminating their participation in Summer EBT, states may pull funding from other child nutrition programs to cover their increased SNAP obligations. Many states currently allocate additional state funds to bolster school meals, such as offering school breakfast to all students at no charge (an idea being led by Arkansas and Pennsylvania), subsidizing participation in the Community Eligibility Provision, expanding free meal eligibility to students in the reduced-price category, or offering free healthy school meals to all students. These state policies reduce childhood hunger, support family food budgets, and improve academic outcomes. If states are asked to absorb a higher share of SNAP costs, many may be forced to scale back these critical school and summer nutrition investments.

SNAP and the child nutrition programs are interconnected: shifting SNAP costs to the states or making changes to SNAP that limit children's participation in the child nutrition programs will hurt children's food security. Children in SNAP households are directly certified for free school meals. They are also automatically issued Summer EBT benefits, a program that serves both students in public schools and those who are homeschooled. Cutting families from SNAP means

children in those households will lose their automatic connection to other federal nutrition programs, in addition to potentially forcing trade-offs in state budgets.

States should not be forced to make impossible choices, such as cutting from one nutrition program to operate another. We urge you to prevent this from becoming a reality by opposing cuts to SNAP.

Sincerely,

Crystal FitzSimons

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President, Food Research & Action Center