

April 29, 2026

Dear Member of Congress:

As you consider amendments adopted by the Rules Committee, I write on behalf of a national anti-hunger organization that has just convened one of the largest gatherings of advocates from across the country, individuals representing your districts and your constituents. Their message was clear and urgent: Congress must act to protect and strengthen SNAP, not weaken it.

**We urge you not to vote for the rule, which would advance the Farm Bill.** There is nothing in this Farm Bill, or in any amendment, that restores the recent cuts to SNAP in H.R. 1, which have caused [millions of people](#) to lose benefits and increased poverty. Advocates who met with your offices expressed concern about the impacts on their communities. States face fiscal pressures and may not be able to sustain SNAP under new costs. Local governments lack the infrastructure, rainy day funds are stagnant, healthcare costs are on the rise, and food banks, food pantries, and emergency food providers are overstretched, unable to meet growing demand.

**We urge you to vote “no” on the bill if it advances to the floor.**

We are concerned about amendments [#272](#) and [#55](#) that favor narrow, inequitable policies, such as restricting certain products and allowing rotisserie chicken while banning hot foods generally. It is unclear why access should depend on a specific preparation method rather than on consistent, fair standards that reflect how people buy and eat food.

We also worry about restrictions on eligible purchases, which will increase operational complexity and affect retailer participation. Over 260,000 authorized retailers, including many small, independent businesses, serve SNAP nationwide. Retailers, especially small and rural ones, already struggle with the impacts of recent policies. Additional compliance costs, confusion at sale points, or new inventory requirements will push more out of the program, forcing families to travel farther for food, hurting local economies, and damaging Main Street businesses.

If the goal is to improve access to healthy food, the most effective and immediate step is to ensure that people can afford food in the first place. Many households are attempting to meet their needs on an average SNAP benefit of \$6 per person per day. The affordability crisis is real, and it is affecting working families across the country, many of whom are employed, often in multiple jobs, yet still rely on SNAP to bridge the gap between wages and the cost of basic necessities like food, housing, and healthcare.

At the same time, these proposals fail to address far more consequential structural issues. They do not restore the longstanding federal-state partnership that shared administrative costs at 50-50, nor do they provide relief from new state benefit cost-sharing requirements. They also fail to account for disparities across states, particularly as some are afforded temporary relief based on error rates while others are not.



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We strongly encourage rejecting amendments that limit access and add burdens on states and retailers. More crucially, we oppose moving forward with a Farm Bill that neglects restoring SNAP cuts, addressing declining participation, and stabilizes the program for the families and communities that rely on it. The Farm Bill is the key legislative tool shaping our national food system for the next five years. It must serve all Americans' needs, avoiding creating winners and losers. We ask you to oppose these amendments and not support any Farm Bill that does not effectively restore and safeguard SNAP.

Sincerely,

*Crystal FitzSimons*

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President  
Food Research & Action Center