

Action Guide: Protect SNAP-Ed!

(Updated May 13, 2025)

Background:

The morning of May 13, 2025, the House Committee on Agriculture released <u>proposed budget</u> <u>reconciliation language</u> that would completely eliminate the SNAP Nutrition Education (SNAP-Ed) program. This program is a vital resource that works each and every day to make America healthy, supporting healthy eating habits and long-term wellbeing of millions of Americans.

Beyond the elimination of SNAP-Ed, the proposed budget also includes several other significant changes to the SNAP program including: increased state cost-sharing requirements; expanded work requirements; tightened waiver criteria; and limiting future updates to the Thrifty Food Plan.

Urgent Call to Action:

The proposed changes represent the most significant overhaul of SNAP in decades, with an enormous impact on millions of individuals and families. The elimination of SNAP-Ed would devastate efforts to promote nutrition education and support healthier food environments for thousands of low-income communities and households.

We strongly urge individuals to take time to

- Contact Members of the House Agriculture Committee and Your Congressional Representatives urging them to oppose the elimination of SNAP-Ed and the proposed detrimental changes to SNAP.
 - a. Chairman Glenn "GT" Thompson (R-PA-15): Contact Page; direct line is 202-225-5121
 - b. Rob Bresnahan (R-PA-8) (202) 225-5546

Remember, you are making these calls as an individual and a constituent, not as a representative of The Food Trust; you are of course welcome to mention any relevant personal information (e.g., what you do for a living, personal ties to SNAP-Ed, etc.).

2. Collaborate and Share:

 Work with your partners and community organizations to inform them of the impact of these changes on the communities in which you work and to develop strategies to oppose this devastating change.

Tips:

1. If you call, you will likely leave a message or share information with whoever answers the phone instead of talking with the legislator themselves. They typically do not ask any follow-up questions about your comment but will instead respond by letting you know they will pass

along the information to the legislator (or their appropriate staff).

2. You may be asked to provide your contact information (address and phone number) so that the legislators' staff can track the calls that come in from constituents.

Phone Script

My name is [your name] and I live in [town/state]. I am reaching out to voice my opposition to the House Agriculture Budget Reconciliation released last night. I am specifically concerned about the proposed elimination of the SNAP-Ed program, along with the changes to SNAP. SNAP-Ed is the obesity prevention and nutrition education arm of the SNAP program providing 2.3 million people on a limited income with the knowledge, skills and resources to make healthy food choices. It not only funds nutrition education but also makes systems-level changes to make the healthy choice the easy choice for SNAP recipients. These proposals would devastate efforts to promote nutrition education, create healthier food and physical activity environments, especially at a time where there is bipartisan support to prevent chronic health conditions. SNAP-Ed is an affordable, effective, proven mechanism to keep America healthy, and it must be protected.

Optional: Insert statistics, facts, personal anecdotes, descriptions of what SNAP-Ed looks like in your district. Some examples:

- SNAP-Ed is one of the most effective and affordable investments we can make in public health. The entire national budget is just \$536 million—that's only \$5 per participant for an entire year—and yet it delivers up to \$9.54 for every \$1 spent by reducing obesity and healthcare costs.
- In Pennsylvania, SNAP-Ed helped cut the number of children becoming overweight in half over just two years. A statewide evaluation showed SNAP-Ed can prevent thousands of cases of obesity and food insecurity in a single year—generating up to \$135 million in economic benefits. These results are happening now in communities in Pennsylvania and across the country.
- Eliminating this essential program would lead to drastic consequences. Two million low-income
 individuals will lose access to nutrition education and up to 314,000 partnered community
 sites—including schools, childcare centers, businesses, healthcare and community centers—will
 lose critical programs that help people eat healthy and live more active lives. For such a modest
 investment, the impact is significant.
- SNAP-Ed's community-wide approaches, improves food access and health and deliver a powerful return on investment up to \$9.54 for every \$1 spent
- A recent statewide evaluation of SNAP-Ed showed that the program's multi-layered approach
 using nutrition education and changes to the environment can prevent thousands of cases of
 obesity and food insecurity in just one year–generating up to \$135 million in statewide societal
 benefits.
- A Pennsylvania SNAP-Ed initiative demonstrated a reduction in the number of children becoming overweight by 50% over two years – proof that nutrition education paired with policy, system and environment changes can help curb the childhood obesity epidemic.

Visual Assets

<u>SNAP-Ed: Investing in Healthy Communities</u> (The Food Trust brochure)

SNAP-Ed's Role in Strengthening Food and Nutrition Security in the 2025 Farm Bill (ASNNA 1-pager)

Social media graphics series:

https://thefoodtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/1.png https://thefoodtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/2.png https://thefoodtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/3.png https://thefoodtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/4.png https://thefoodtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/5.png https://thefoodtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/6.png https://thefoodtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/7.png https://thefoodtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/8.png https://thefoodtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/9.png

Caption:

Urgent call to action: Call your representatives TODAY to oppose the proposed elimination of SNAP-Ed!

On May 13, 2025, the House Committee on Agriculture released proposed budget reconciliation language that could completely eliminate the SNAP Nutrition Education (SNAP-Ed) program. This program is a vital resource that works each and every day to make America healthy, supporting healthy eating habits and the long-term well-being of millions of Americans.

Share widely with your networks!

#SNAPEdWorks