

FEEDING COLORADO STATEMENT ON THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONSIDERATION OF THE BUDGET RECONCILIATION BILL

May 20, 2025

As Congress considers budget reconciliation legislation this week, Feeding Colorado urges lawmakers to reject proposals that would reduce funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid. About 1 in 10 Coloradans received SNAP benefits in 2024 and nearly 1.2 million people rely on Medicaid for access to essential health care. When these programs are strong, they help families in Colorado get the resources they need – cuts would mean individuals will face even more challenges to put food on the table and access health care.

"Preserving and strengthening SNAP and Medicaid is not just about helping individuals, it's about safeguarding the health, well-being and economic stability of our communities across Colorado" said Mandy Nuku, Feeding Colorado Executive Director. "With the sustained high cost of food and health care, this is not the time to scale back essential programs that help families stay afloat. Families, seniors, veterans, and children in our community work hard every day to build better lives – but they need a strong foundation to succeed. Access to food and health care is that foundation."

With nearly 50 million Americans facing food insecurity—the highest level in over a decade — we need strong federal programs, the charitable food system, and community partners, working together to solve the hunger crisis.

The legislation also proposes shifting <u>SNAP costs to states</u>, a move that would force state governments to reduce benefits, limit eligibility or raise taxes – the opposite of what our neighbors facing hunger say they need to thrive.

Instead of weakening SNAP and Medicaid, Congress should protect these foundational programs and oppose budget cuts to SNAP and Medicaid in budget reconciliation legislation. Feeding Colorado stands ready to work with Representatives DeGette, Neguse, Hurd, Boebert, Crank, Crow, Pettersen, and Evans and Senators Bennet and Hickenlooper on policies that support neighbors in Colorado to put food on the table and thrive.

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