



Dear Members of California's Congressional Delegation:

We are writing as California's members of the [Mayors Alliance to End Childhood Hunger](#), a nonpartisan coalition representing more than 400 mayors across all 50 states and Washington, DC, from large and medium cities to smaller communities and townships, working in partnership with Share Our Strength's [No Kid Hungry Campaign](#) to ensure that every child has the healthy food they need to thrive. Our offices are on the frontline of responding to challenges in our communities, and as mayors, we need every option available to fight childhood hunger.

We urge you to protect, strengthen, and fully fund federal food and nutrition programs in budget appropriations, reconciliation, and continuing resolutions. We strongly urge you to reject efforts to use federal nutrition program cuts to reduce or offset spending.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the nation's first line of defense against hunger, helping **more than 5.1 million people** in California put food on the table. With **17% of kids** facing hunger in the state and high food prices, protecting and strengthening SNAP is more critical than ever.

The SNAP program helps more than **1.6 million children** in California and provides them with school meal eligibility. Cuts to SNAP would mean that children in families with low incomes would lose access to school meals. SNAP also offers critical support for local businesses, including more than **27,000** retailers in California. These retailers include grocery stores and farmers' markets, contributing to local taxes that fund services like schools and health care.

We also express our concern for the growing number of children in our country facing food insecurity and hunger if these cuts are enacted. There are increasing pressures on the cost and availability of food, including viral illnesses in animals raised for consumption, a diminished number of agricultural workers, increased food costs, and continuing global conflict. Our cities are on the frontline of responding to challenges in our communities, and as mayors, we need every option available to fight childhood hunger.

Thank you for considering our concerns and priorities. If you have any questions, please contact the Mayors Alliance's staff lead, Aaron Goldstein, at mayors@strength.org.

Cc: Sen. Padilla, Sen. Schiff, Rep. LaMalfa, Rep. Huffman, Rep. Kiley, Rep. Thompson, Rep. McClintock, Rep. Bera, Rep. Matsui, Rep. Garamendi, Rep. Harder, Rep. DeSaulnier, Rep. Pelosi, Rep. Simon, Rep. Gray, Rep. Swalwell, Rep. Mullin, Rep. Liccardo, Rep. Khanna, Rep. Lofgren, Rep. Panetta, Rep. Fang, Rep. Costa, Rep. Valadao, Rep. Obernichte, Rep. Carbajal, Rep. Ruiz, Rep. Brownley, Rep. Whitesides, Rep. Chu, Rep. Rivas, Rep. Friedman, Rep. Cisneros, Rep. Sherman, Rep. Aguilar, Rep. Gomez, Rep. Tottles, Rep. Lieu, Rep. Kalamanger-Dove, Rep. Sanchez, Rep. Takano, Rep. Kim, Rep. Calvert, Rep. Garcia, Rep. Waters, Re. Barragan, Rep. Tran, Rep. Correa, Rep. Min, Rep. Issa, Rep. Peters, Rep. Jacobs, Rep. Vargas

MAYORS ALLIANCE

TO END CHILDHOOD HUNGER

Sincerely,

Mayor Michael Vargas
Member
Perris, CA

Mayor Martha Guerrero
Member
West Sacramento, CA

Mayor Victor M. Martinez
Mendota, CA

Mayor Anna Velazquez
Soledad, CA