

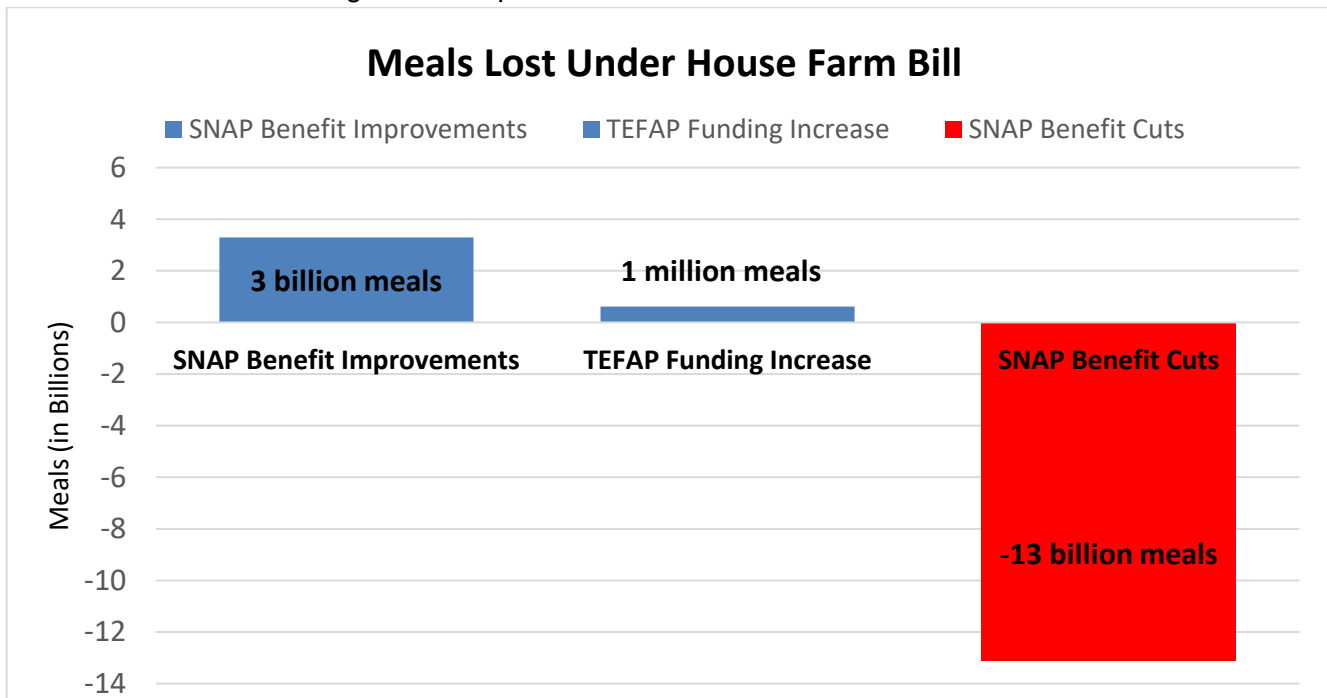


House Farm Bill Would Cut 9.2 Billion Meals from Nation's Hungry

The House version of the Farm Bill, H.R. 2, would result in a loss of 9.2 billion meals over ten years from the plates of children, veterans, seniors, and individuals with disabilities.

Feeding America examined the provisions in H.R. 2 with a particular focus on proposals that would directly impact the food assistance benefits available to families for purchasing nutritious meals. We reviewed provisions that would cut Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits through changes to eligibility and participation, as well as proposals to improve SNAP benefits and increase funding for food through the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). Together, the net 9.8 billion meals lost from the SNAP proposals would far exceed the modest increase in 620 million meals through TEFAP.

For every meal that Feeding America provides, SNAP provides 12. Charity simply cannot make up for the lost SNAP meals. Congress must protect SNAP in the farm bill.



Source: Feeding America analysis of Congressional Budget Office (CBO), H.R. 2, Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018, as introduced April 12, 2018, <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/53760>.

Note: All estimates are over 10 years. SNAP benefit cuts of \$23.1 billion or loss of 13 billion meals include the following provisions: loss of benefits from expanded work requirements, rollback of expanded categorical eligibility, repeal of the Standard Utility Allowance (SUA) simplification, and mandating child support cooperation. SNAP benefit improvements of \$5.8 billion or 3.3 billion meals include the following provisions: mandating income exclusion of child support, exclusion of military basic housing allowance, increasing earned income deduction, mandating simplified homeless housing deduction, mandating transitional benefits for households leaving TANF. TEFAP provisions included an increase in funding of \$0.5 billion. The conversion of SNAP benefits to meals is based on the 2017 USDA Thrifty Food Plan meal cost of \$1.76 per meal. Conversion of TEFAP funds to meals is based on average TEFAP food purchases of \$0.67 per pound and a conversion of 1.2 pounds per meal based on USDA's What We Eat in America 2011-2012.