



Feeding America Legislative Priorities for the 2024 End-of-Year Congressional Session

Everyone needs nutritious food to thrive, and in every community in America, people are working hard to provide for themselves and their families. Yet in 2023, more than 47 million people—1 in 7—experienced food insecurity in the U.S. We are capable of achieving a food-secure future for everyone when we unite behind strong policies that support families and federal nutrition programs.

These are Feeding America's legislative priorities for bills that could be considered during the 2024 end-of-year congressional session, also known as the lame-duck session. This is not a comprehensive list of Feeding America's federal legislative priorities.

Disaster Supplemental Appropriations

Congress must help food banks coping with the unprecedented impact of Hurricanes Helene and Milton, and Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) disruptions, by enacting a disaster supplemental bill that will:

- Provide additional funding for TEFAP food purchases in areas impacted by disasters.
- Provide additional administrative funding for CSFP and Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) operators to help address food supply chain disruptions.

Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) Appropriations

Congress must fully fund federal nutrition programs in FY25 appropriations legislation.

The FY25 appropriations legislation should:

- Provide full funding for The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) storage and distribution account and the TEFAP Rural Infrastructure Grants Program.
- Provide full funding to maintain the CSFP caseload.
- Provide full funding to maintain expected participation in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).

Farm Bill

Congress must pass a bipartisan farm bill that strengthens federal nutrition programs.

The next farm bill should:

- Increase TEFAP funding—for food, the storage and distribution account and infrastructure grants—to help people facing hunger and support the U.S. agricultural economy.
- Bolster the TEFAP Farm to Food Bank Program.
- Reauthorize and streamline CSFP.
- Ensure the purchasing power of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits aligns with rising grocery prices.
- Streamline SNAP eligibility and enrollment processes.
- Protect SNAP participants' ability to choose the foods that are right for their family.

Farm Bill (continued)

- Provide better support for individuals seeking employment who receive SNAP benefits.
- Ensure parity in food assistance for Puerto Rico and other U.S. territories.
- Help ensure sovereignty for Native communities.

Tax Policy

Congress must increase economic opportunity by expanding the Child Tax Credit.

A Child Tax Credit expansion should:

- Provide a larger Child Tax Credit benefit per child.
- Make the credit fully available to parents with low incomes or no income.
- Provide part of the credit in monthly payments in advance of tax filings.

National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)

Congress must expand the military Basic Needs Allowance (BNA) in the NDAA to help improve food security among active-duty service members and their families. Congress should adopt House-passed language that would:

- Expand eligibility for the BNA for military families by excluding the Basic Allowance for Housing from the BNA eligibility calculation.
- Extend BNA eligibility to households making less than 200% of the federal poverty level (an increase from the current 150% threshold).