

## Republicans' Nutrition Plan: Making it Harder to Put Food on the Table

Senator Gallego grew up relying on Free and Reduced Lunch – he knows firsthand that food assistance programs are the difference between a healthy meal and an empty belly for millions of American kids. Despite claiming that they would lower food costs, Republicans in Congress are working to cut food assistance – ***threatening nutrition benefits for 191,000 Arizonans, just so they can give a tax cut to their billionaire buddies.***<sup>1</sup>

### CUTTING SNAP

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is a lifeline for thousands for Arizona families. But if Congressional Republicans get their way, **63,000 Arizona families will lose some or all of their SNAP benefits. 21,000 of those are families with children, at risk of losing an average of \$240 each month.**<sup>2</sup> These cuts will hit hardest in rural Arizona, where **1 in 5 households are helped by SNAP**, compared to 1 in 8 urban households.<sup>3</sup>

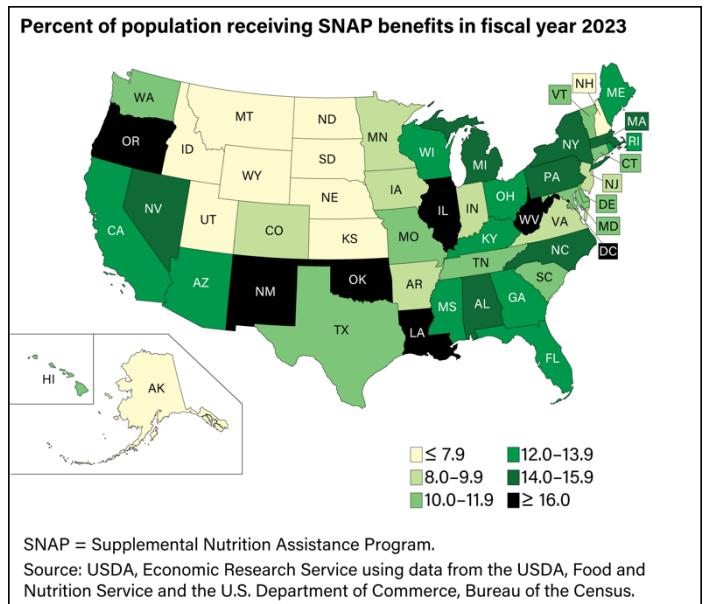
### CUTTING SCHOOL MEALS

Cutting SNAP will not only make it harder for families to afford their grocery bill – **it will put free school meals at risk for tens of thousands of students in Arizona.** Kicking kids off SNAP will result in over **35,700 Arizona students** no longer automatically qualifying for free school meals.<sup>4</sup> That means more redtape for families and increased administrative burden on school staff already spread thin. Kicking kids off SNAP will also make it harder for schools to qualify for federal school meal funding, **impacting 121,693 Arizona students.**<sup>5</sup>

### DRAINING ARIZONA'S BUDGET

Republicans in Congress want to shirk responsibility for cutting food assistance by shifting the financial burden for SNAP onto states that simply don't have the budgets to support it. Under their plan, Arizona will be forced to pay a minimum \$100 million a year for SNAP and will most likely be **forced to pay up to \$501 million a year.**<sup>6</sup>

### Arizonans Rely on SNAP



<sup>1</sup> <https://www.americanprogress.org/article/the-devastating-harms-of-house-republicans-big-beautiful-bill-by-state-and-congressional-district/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/2025-05/Expanded-SNAP-Work-Requirements-Would-Reduce-Benefits-for-Millions-of-Families.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.frac.org/wp-content/uploads/snap-facts-az.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/2025-05/Changes\\_to\\_SNAP\\_Could\\_Reduce\\_Student\\_Access\\_to\\_Free\\_School\\_Meals.pdf](https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/2025-05/Changes_to_SNAP_Could_Reduce_Student_Access_to_Free_School_Meals.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/2025-05/Changes\\_to\\_SNAP\\_Could\\_Reduce\\_Student\\_Access\\_to\\_Free\\_School\\_Meals.pdf](https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/2025-05/Changes_to_SNAP_Could_Reduce_Student_Access_to_Free_School_Meals.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/house-agriculture-committee-proposal-would-worsen-hunger-hit-state-budgets>