

## Justice and Peace Commission

### Food Policy: What You Need to Know



<https://dioceseofnewark.org/commission-justice-and-peace>

## Justice and Peace Commission

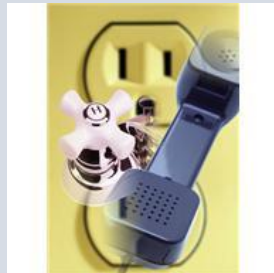
### Food Policy: What You Need to Know

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# Why Are People Hungry



Monthly Budget Planning

	Budget Amount	Actual Expense
<b>Savings</b>		
- Bank Account		
- RRSP	125.00	100.00
- Investments	100.00	100.00
	150.00	100.00
<b>Housing</b>		
- Mortgage	750.00	300
- Taxes	112.00	862
	215.00	215
<b>Food</b>		
- Power	50.00	47.00
- Water	30.00	22.00
- Heating	115.00	109.00
- Telephone	40.00	36.00
	235	214
<b>Insurance</b>		
- Home	38.00	38.00
- Car	92.00	92.00
- Personal	69.00	69.00
	199	199
<b>Transportation</b>		
- Gas for Car	230.00	318.00
- Repairs & Tires	100.00	29.00
	330	347
<b>Clothing &amp; Shoes</b>		
- Satellite	120.00	72.00
- Internet		
- Books	48.00	72
	51.00	
	20.00	
<b>TOTALS</b>	\$2,455.00	2,323.00

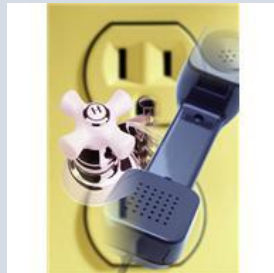
*Note: A red arrow points to the 'Gas for Car' entry with the handwritten word 'OUCH!' and a red circle around the actual expense of 318.00.*

# Long Term Economic Justice Policies

Needs a Well-Paid and Secure Job

Work Supports

Safe and affordable home



# Short Term Increase Availability of Food

## STRENGTHEN KEY NUTRITION PROGRAMS

## ADVOCATE



TELL The  
Hunger Story



# Bread for the World



Bread for the World is a Christian advocacy organization urging U.S. decision makers to do all they can to pursue a world without hunger. Our mission is to educate and equip people to advocate for policies and programs that can help end hunger in the U.S. and around the world.

# State of Hunger in the United States of America

- According to the USDA, more than 34 million people, including 9 million children, in the United States are **food insecure**.
- Every community in the country faces hunger, but rural communities are especially hard hit.
- Every year the US wastes about \$408 billion dollars' worth of food.



## Many New Jersey households struggle to put food on the table. The most recent data show:

- 8.3%** of households were “food insecure,” meaning that their access to adequate food is limited by a lack of money and other resources.
- 10.2%** of the population lived below the poverty line (> 900,000)
- 14.2%** of children lived below the poverty line
- 9.4%** of older adults lived below the poverty line



# GOVERNMENT IS A CRITICAL PARTNER

CHILD NUTRITION  
REAUTHORIZATION

FARM BILL



# I'm Not a Farmer Why Should I Care About the Farm Bill

Commodity Subsidies

**Nutrition**

Conservation

Rural Development

Energy

Research

Farm Credit

Food Aid

Forestry



The farm bill is not just for farmers!

# I'm Not a Farmer Why Should I Care About the Farm Bill

## Key Nutrition Programs

The Emergency Food Program (TEFAP)

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) Seniors

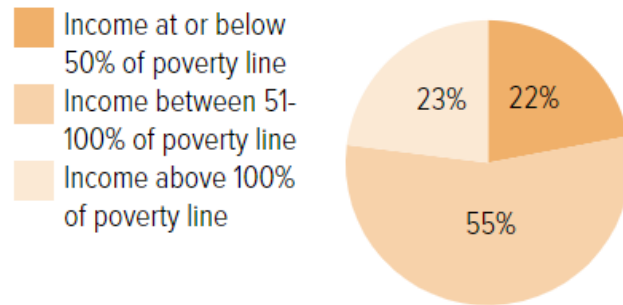
SNAP



## Average Monthly SNAP Benefit By Demographic Group, Fiscal Year 2020 (pre-pandemic period), New Jersey

### Most SNAP Participants in New Jersey Have Incomes Below the Poverty Line

Share of participants by household income, fiscal year 2020 (pre-pandemic period)



Source: CBPP analysis of data from USDA Food and Nutrition Service, fiscal year 2020 (pre-pandemic period)<sup>b</sup>

All households	\$227
Households with children	\$366
Working households	\$324
Households with older adults	\$136
Households with non-elderly disabled individuals	\$182

**857,300** New Jersey residents, or **9%** of the state population

Source: CBPP analysis of data from USDA Food and Nutrition Service, fiscal year 2020 (pre-pandemic period)

### NEW JERSEY

more than  
**63%**

of SNAP participants are  
in families with children

more than  
**47%**

are in families with  
members who are older  
adults or are disabled

more than  
**44%**

are in working families

# State of Play in Congress

- Proposed cuts to Medicaid, TANF and SNAP were front and center
- 1 million adults will be impacted if expanded work requirements are approved.
- Consistent research shows that work requirements do not result in increased employment and earnings.
- Many Farm Bill marker bills introduced including H.R. 3159, the Food Date Labeling act sponsored by Rep. Pingreee (D,ME-1) and Rep. Newhouse (R, WA-4).

## BIG PICTURE

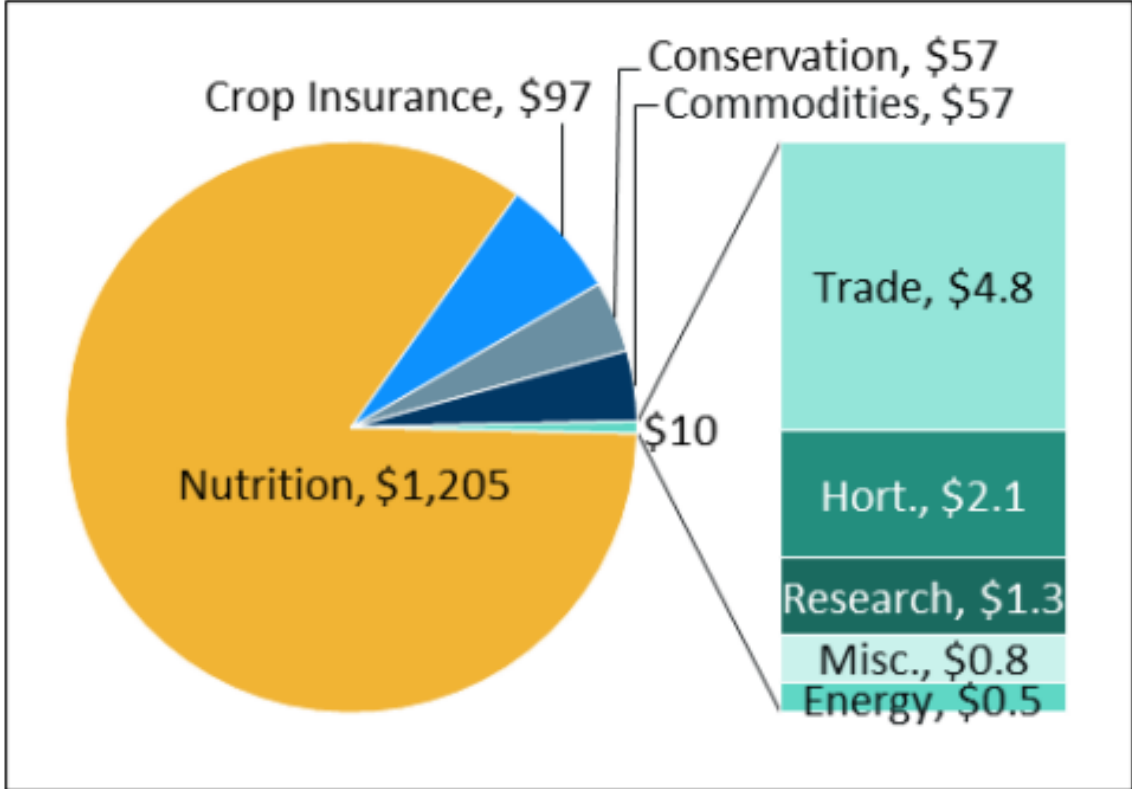
- ❑ The largest U.S. financial commitment for food and agriculture.
- ❑ **12 Titles in the farm bill and reauthorized every 5 years.**
- ❑ **The 2018 farm bill is set to expire on September 30, 2023.**
- ❑ **Congressional Budget Office (CBO), current baseline is estimated at \$709 billion over 5 years (FY2024-FY2028) and \$1,426 trillion over 10 years (FY2024-FY2033).**





# U.S. Farm Bill in a Nutshell.

**Figure 1. Baseline for Farm Bill Programs, by Title**  
(billion dollars, 10-year mandatory outlays, FY2024-FY2033)



**Source:** CRS using the CBO Baseline (February 2023) for the five largest titles, and amounts in law for programs in other titles.

**Note:** Total estimated at \$1,426 billion.



# The Farm Bill: A Food Systems Approach



Food Systems = the path food travels from farm to fork

Food Systems involves the growing, harvesting, processing, packaging, transporting, marketing, consuming, and disposing of food.

Global, regional, national, and local food systems must be synchronized to ensure food gets to the people at risk of hunger.





# U.S. Food System



## CHALLENGES

Only 2% of US cropland is used to grow fruits and vegetables

To meet the nutritional needs of Americans, we need to double the production of fruits and vegetables

60% of the crops grown are commodity crops – highly processed food, animal feed, and ethanol – in the form of corn, soybeans, sugars, wheat, and potatoes

One-third of the food produced in the U.S. is wasted.

## RESULTS

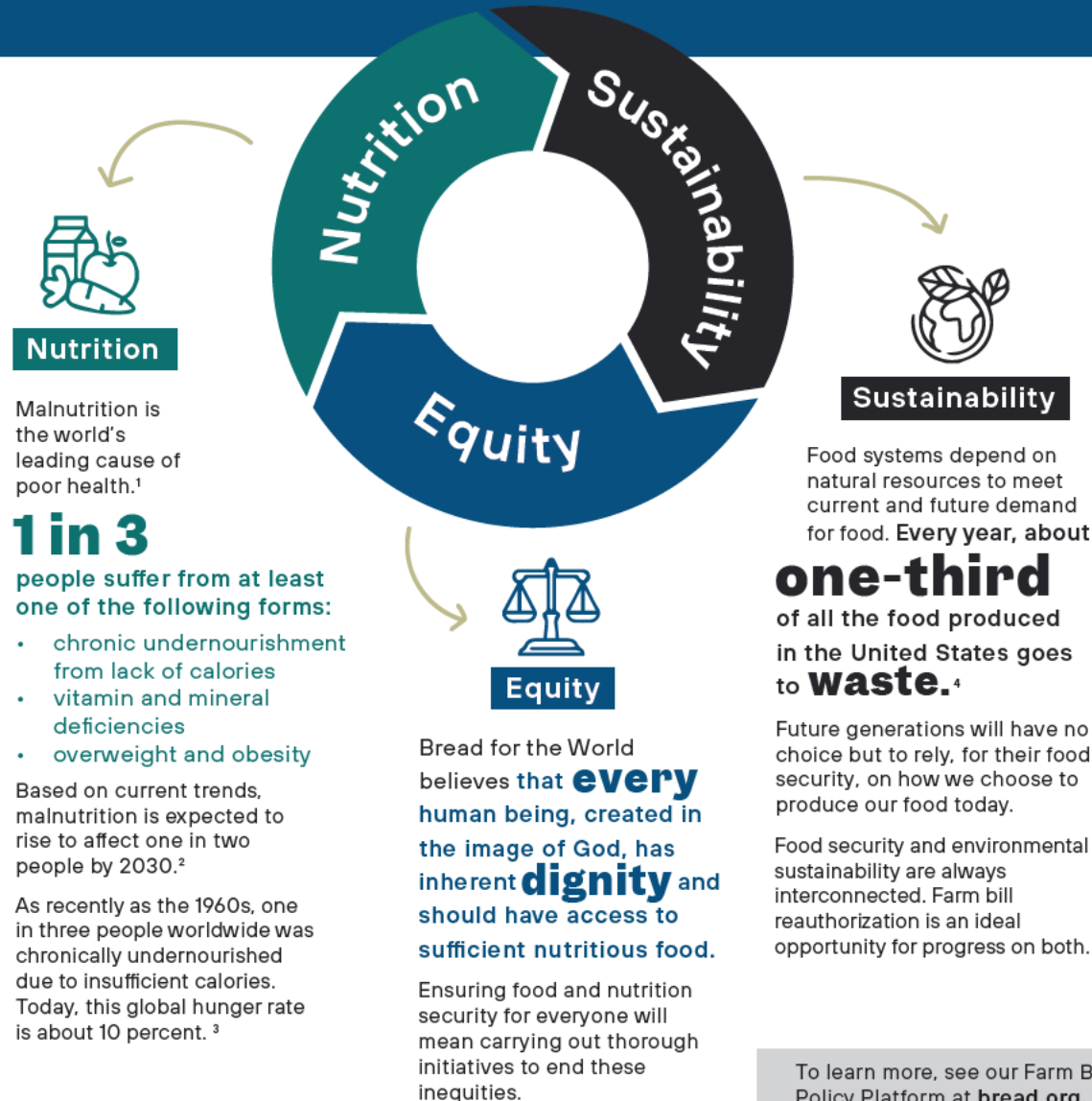
38 million people face food insecurity in the United States, including 11 million children

The odds of a child being obese are 5 times higher for children from food insecure households compared to children from food secure households

Living in a food swamp has been associated with unhealthy dietary behaviors and obesity among adults and young adolescents.

Research is still lacking on the effects of farm policies on diet-related diseases

# Building a Healthy, Equitable, and Sustainable Food System via the Farm Bill



# Bread for the World Farm Bill '23 Priorities

- **Sustainability**

- Food Date Labeling Act  
(H.R. 3159/S. 1484)

- **Equity**

- Puerto Rico NAP to SNAP  
(S.949/H.R. 253)

- **Access to SNAP**

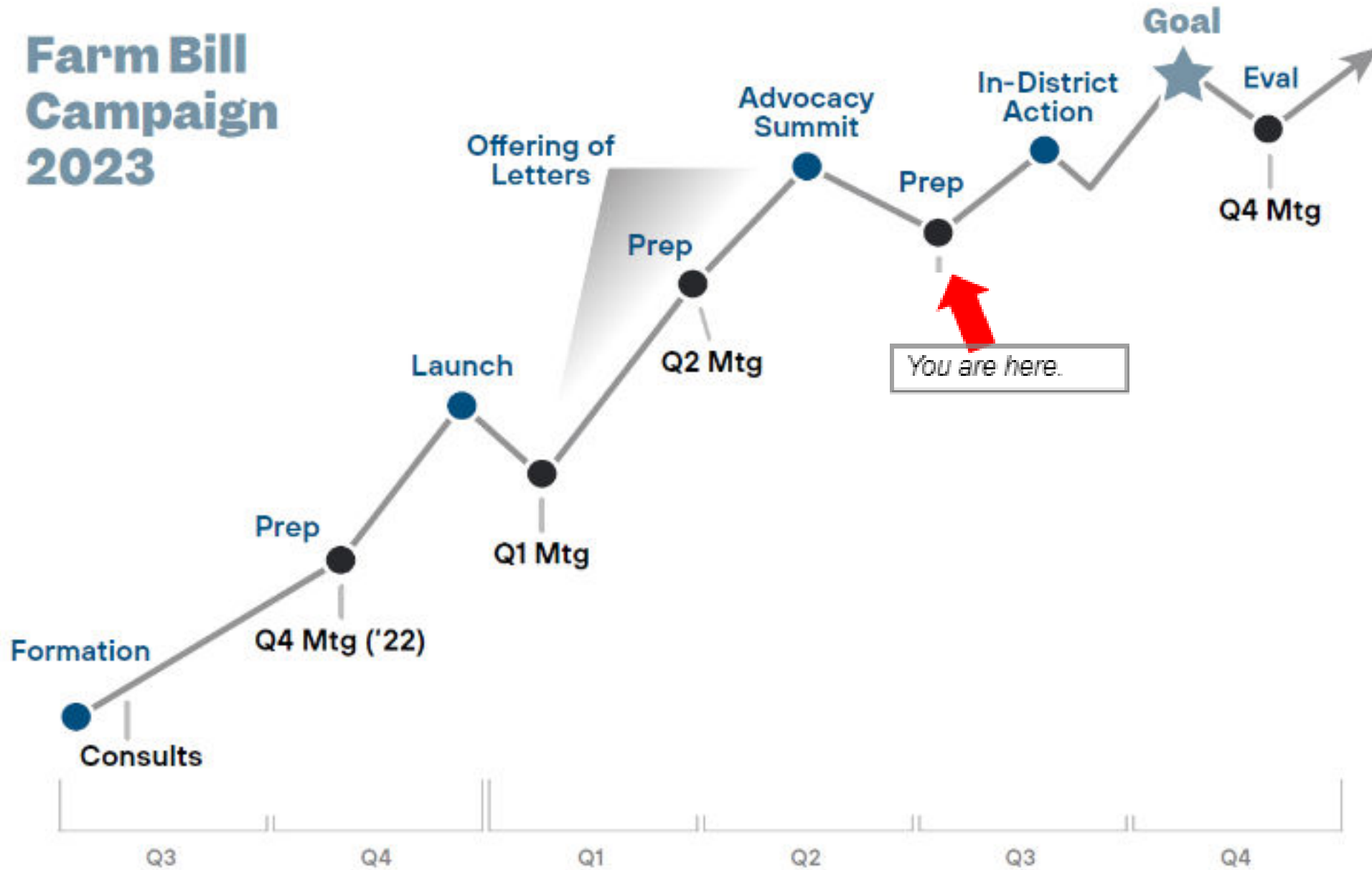
- Reduce Expansion of Work Requirements

- **Nutrition**

- Opt for Health with SNAP (OH SNAP), Close the Fruit and Vegetable Gap Act of 2023
- Introduced by Rep. Blunt & Sen. Booker



# Farm Bill Campaign 2023

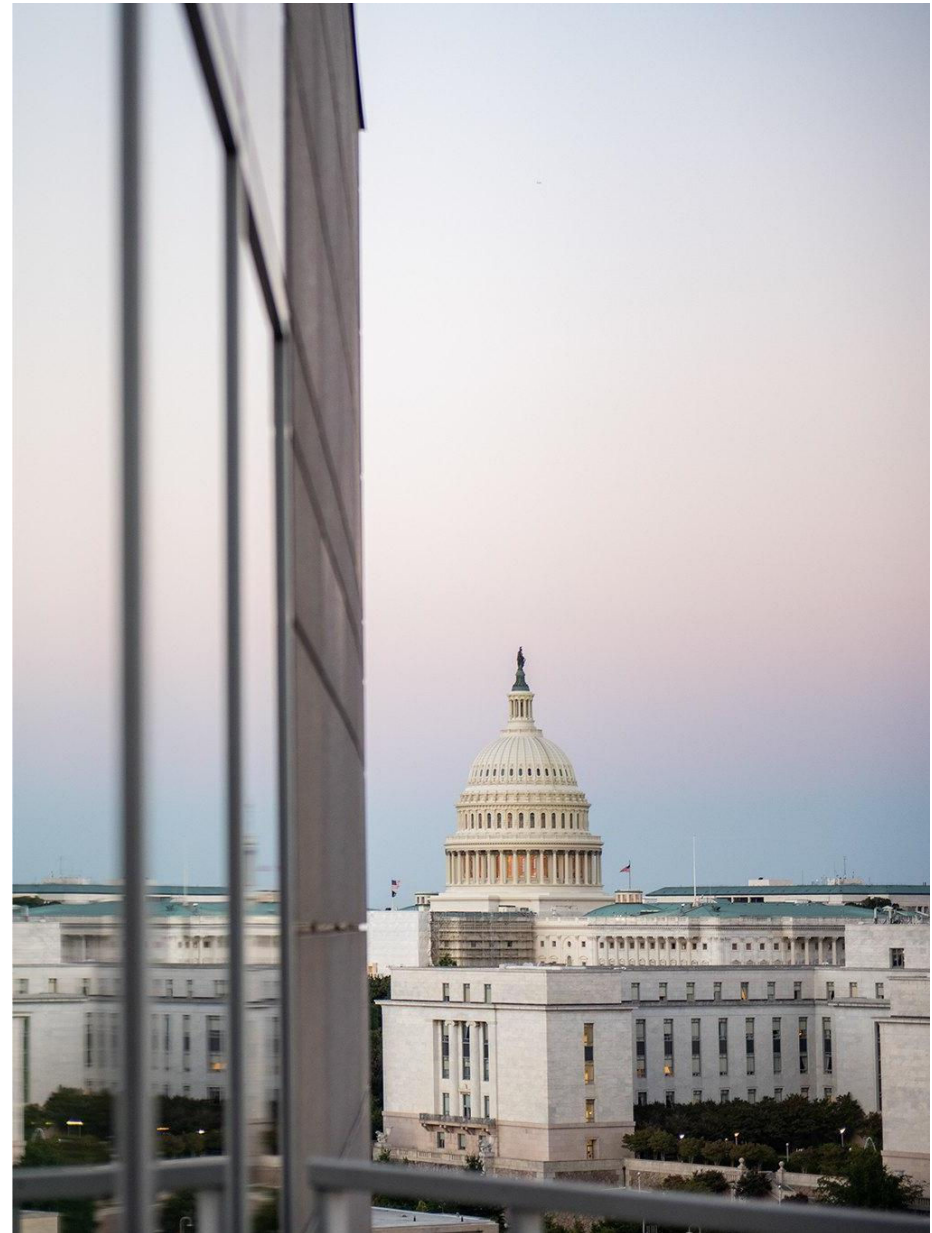


# Legislative update

*On April 26<sup>th</sup>, the U.S. House passed the Save, Limit, and Grow Act, a budget bill that would result in dramatic cuts to many programs. Negotiations over the debt limit and spending are ongoing. Cuts to domestic and international food assistance are a major point of contention.*

## Farm bill

- House and Senate Agriculture Committees continue to hold farm bill hearings.
- Marker bills we're following:
  - *Justice for Black Farmers Act*
  - *Puerto Rico Nutrition Assistance Fairness Act*
  - *Opportunity to Address College Hunger Act*
  - Expected soon: legislation on GusNIP, food waste, tribal food sovereignty, SNAP ban for drug felonies



# Legislative update (cont.)

**BREAD**  
FOR THE WORLD

## Keeping the Faith

Bipartisan Commitment for a 2023 Farm Bill

April 25, 2023 | 5:30-7:30pm // G-50 Dirksen Senate Office Building

Honored Guests

Senator Debbie Stabenow | Senator John Boozman

RSVP at [bread.org/keepingthefalth](https://bread.org/keepingthefalth)

Bread held a bipartisan reception on the 2023 Farm Bill on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Senators Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) John Boozman (R-AR), Mike Braun (R-IN), and Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and 200+ attendees from Bread's network were in attendance.

Currently, the Senate Agriculture Committee has made a commitment to start drafting the 2023 Farm Bill in time for August recess / early Fall.



# Advocacy and the Offering of Letters



# Why Advocacy is Important?

## SNAP alone :

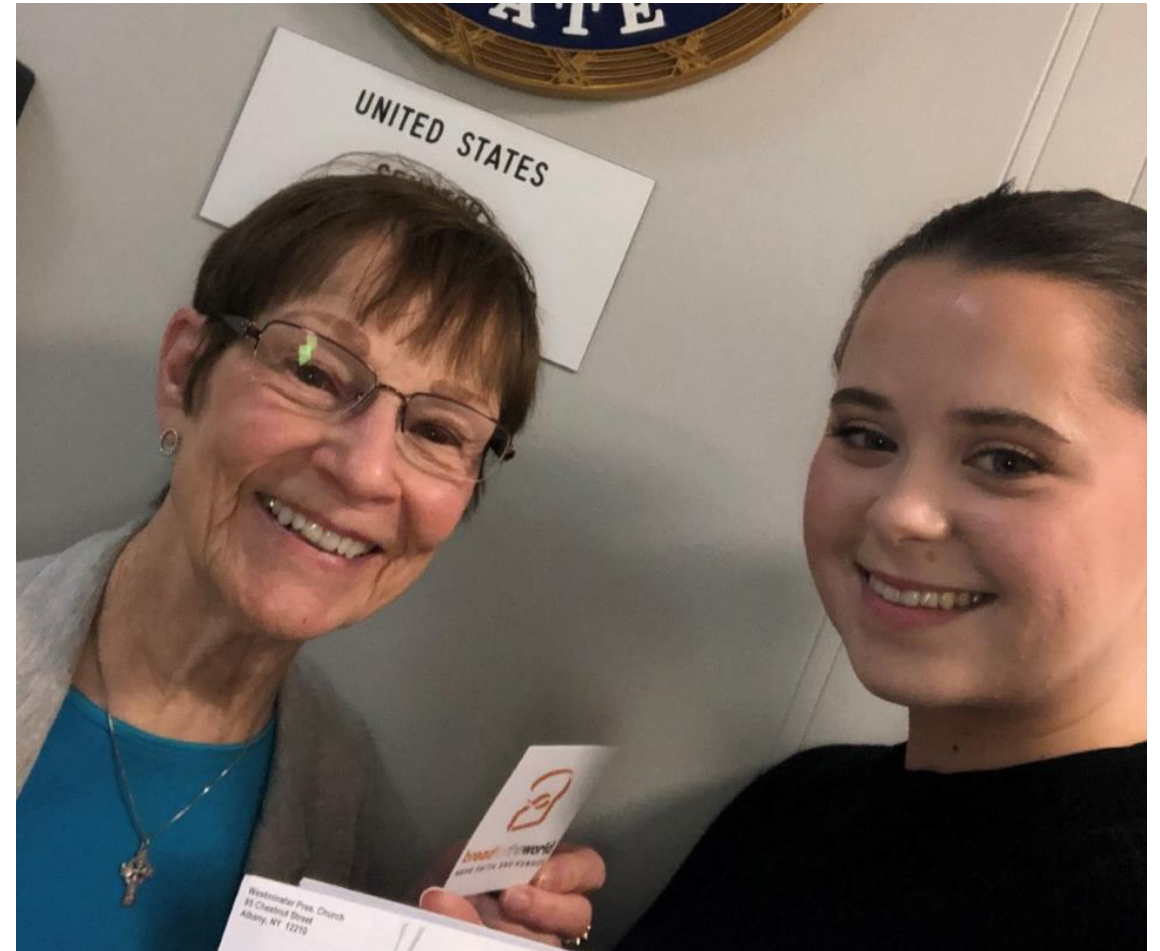
- Benefits: **42.5MM Continental US Citizens**
- Average Benefits Per Person: **\$254**
- US Avg. Monthly Grocery Spending: **\$412**
- **56% of households** who are food insecure in the US participate in SNAP.
- Lifted **155,000 people** above the poverty line in New York, including 70,000 children.





# What to do after OL's are collected?

- Share any pictures of the OL on social media and with your Bread Organizer.
- Deliver your letters in person by church, district, or state teams to local offices.
- Send a follow-up email to key DC staff.
- Fill out the report form: [bread.org/evaluation](https://bread.org/evaluation)
- Report Form [Training Link](#)
- Let your Bread organizer know if you have questions or need assistance.



# Thank You

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