

The Honorable Senator Rob Portman
B40D Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington D.C., 20510

Dear Senator Portman,

On behalf of nearly 50 million Americans facing hunger, and one in 7 individuals who suffer from food insecurity in the region served by the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank in Northeast Ohio, I wanted to urge you to support and protect programs that feed these vulnerable individuals.

Hunger relief agencies that are part of The Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank's network serve more than 180,000 of Ohio's hungry each year, and attempt fill the gaps when government assistance is not enough. SNAP provides critical nutrition to low-income families, children, and seniors in our state. There is no way that food banks like ours can fill the gap if SNAP is cut.

As our leaders in Washington work to pass a new Farm Bill and reduce our national debt, we ask that you protect and strengthen hunger-relief programs like the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). With unemployment still high and many Americans struggling to make ends meet, we cannot cut the programs that are helping many of our neighbors put food on the table. Given the associated healthcare, educational, and economic costs of hunger and poor nutrition, these cuts are short-sighted and costly in the long run.

As your constituent, I ask that you remember the Ohio families who are struggling and remain committed to protecting programs that are a lifeline for hungry Americans.

Sincerely,

Your concerned constituents and supporters of the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank