

San Francisco Bay Area RESULTS Media generated June 2025 – July 2026

(with an honorary contribution from Beaumont, California)

Date	RESULTS Person	Medium	Item	Title and Description
June 2, 2025	Lynne Patalano	<i>The New York Times</i>	Letter	"Countering 'Psychic Numbing' in the Trump Era" (Americans did not vote to cut medical research, SNAP, disaster relief, Medicaid, PEPFAR, and more)
June 12, 2025	Georgia Platts	<i>The Salt Lake Tribune</i>	Letter	"Should tax cuts for the wealthy be paid for by the middle class and poor kids?"
August 6, 2025	Jim Driggers	<i>The Union</i>	Letter	"Does Rep. Kiley think he's being tricked?" (Big Beautiful Bill will cut SNAP and Medicaid, and its changes to the Child Tax Credit will worsen the financial well-being for families in California and throughout the U.S. Tell Kiley he should be working for your well-being not his own.)
December 24, 2025	Jim Driggers	<i>The Mercury News East Bay Times</i>	Letter	"To influence Congress, tell them what you want" (Kudos to Rep. DeSaulnier for supporting the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria.)
December 30, 2025	Jim Driggers	<i>Houston Chronicle</i>	Letter	"Calling Out Politicians" (If we want Congress to support ACA subsidies, SNAP benefits, child tax credit and effective international development programs, we need to clearly tell them that in letters, phone calls, social media posts and meetings.)
January 18, 2026	Susan Wright	<i>The Mercury News East Bay Times</i>	Letter	"Next budget deal must undo SNAP cuts"
April 26, 2026	Jim Driggers	<i>East Bay Times</i>	Letter	"Local reps demonstrate the values Jesus taught" (After Trump insane and Constitution-betraying decision to eliminate USAID, it's good to see Congressional support (especially from Mark DeSaulnier and Mike Thompson) for restoring these programs.)
May 29, 2026	Rick Narvaez	<i>East Bay Times</i>	Letter	"Senate must fully fund housing vouchers" (Housing Choice Vouchers and other special choice vouchers currently help 2.4 million households. But due to chronic underfunding, only 1 in 4 eligible households are being served. Sens. Adam Schiff and Sen. Alex Padilla must urge the Appropriations Committee to increase funding to fully renew the current vouchers and add 250,000 new vouchers in FY 2027.)
July 10, 2026	Jim Driggers	<i>East Bay Times</i>	Letter	"Victories by the weak show America's promise" ("Those ideals upon which our nation was built — they are strong enough to endure any authoritarian regime, but only if we reach for them.")

The New York Times

[OPINION](#)

LETTERS

Countering ‘Psychic Numbing’ in the Trump Era

June 2, 2025

To the Editor:

“[‘I Even Believe He Is Destroying the American Presidency.’](#)” by Thomas B. Edsall (Opinion guest essay, nytimes.com, May 20), should be required reading for every member of Congress.

I vote in every election. I affirm what was suggested in the article: that we didn’t vote to destroy the government of the country we love.

My friends and neighbors didn’t vote to stop American universities from leading the world in science innovation. We didn’t vote to stop medical research. We didn’t vote to decrease SNAP benefits and make neighbors hungrier.

Nobody voted so that weather and disaster relief experts would be underfunded. We didn’t vote to tear Medicaid apart, to cut funding for nursing home care or to stop safely delivering babies in rural hospitals. We didn’t vote to have trade wars with the whole world. We did not vote to purge competent people from the government.

We were proud of our leadership in global affairs. We didn’t vote for tuberculosis to spread unchecked and AIDS to kill more people. We did not vote to let food and medicine rot so babies would die. We didn’t vote to embrace dictators and insult allies. We didn’t want our nation to stand apart from other prosperous countries in shame and diminished freedoms.

Nobody voted to give a mandate to the cruelty and incompetence we are seeing in this “big, beautiful bill.”

Congress seems to acquiesce to the lie that we voters wanted this destruction. Put them on notice: We did *not* vote for *this*.

Lynne Patalano
Beaumont, Calif.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2025/06/02/opinion/trump-era.html>

The Salt Lake Tribune

Letter: Should tax cuts for the wealthy be paid for by the middle class and poor kids?

[picture omitted]

(Bethany Baker | The Salt Lake Tribune) U.S. Sen. Mike Lee, left, meets with U.S. Sen. candidate Rep. John Curtis during a watch party in Provo on Tuesday, June 25, 2024.

By [Georgia Platts | The Public Forum](#) | June 12, 2025, 5:00 a.m.

Should tax cuts for the richest Americans be paid for by health care cuts to children, the elderly, workers, and rural counties?

Should tax cuts for the richest Americans be paid for by children in poor families going hungry, through no fault of their own?

Let me expound a bit on that list of Americans who will lose out in order to fund tax breaks — the bulk of which would go to America's wealthiest — in the Republican reconciliation bill.

One in six Utah children rely on Medicaid, as do half of our nursing home residents. At the same time, rural hospitals significantly depend on Medicaid. Yet all can expect to lose funding in the proposed reconciliation bill.

Meanwhile, work requirements to access Medicaid sound reasonable. Yet paperwork can be so confusing (purposely so?) that workers are still left out. And then businesses are staffed by less healthy workers, which costs them in the long run.

Food assistance for impoverished kids is also poised for cuts. When little children go hungry it's a tragedy. More so when these cuts are made to fund tax cuts for the most affluent Americans. Making matters worse, children's impoverishment can cost us more in the long run. Poverty raises crime rates, which hold their own costs. Next, crime brings additional expenditures for police, courts and prisons. It's cheaper to feed kids in the first place. And it's certainly more humane.

I urge Sens. John Curtis and Mike Lee to carefully consider whether the Republican reconciliation bill should be written to harm middle class Americans and poor children in order to benefit the wealthiest among us?

Georgia Platts, South Jordan

Note: Georgia Platts actually lives in San Jose and has a connection to South Jordan, Utah.

<https://www.sltrib.com/opinion/letters/2025/06/12/letter-should-tax-cuts-wealthy-be/>

THE UNION

Ideas & Opinions — Jim Driggers: Does Rep. Kiley think he's being tricked?

Jim Driggers | Letter to the Editor

Aug 6, 2025

Thanks for publishing Paul Hauck's "The 'facts' that weren't" letter on July 23. I particularly liked his last line, "And it proves the old adage: It is easier to trick a man than to convince him he has been tricked." I'm submitting this letter hoping it's easier, but not impossible.

Rep. Kevin Kiley issued a press release regarding the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) President Trump signed into law on July 4. Rep. Kiley wrote, "Californians will soon get something long overdue: major tax relief."

As a retired, married man who owns my home and has no children, I'll get some tax relief. But for my relatives living in the Central Valley, OBBBA's helpful tax consequences are going to be crushed by its harmful consequences, such as cuts to SNAP and Medi-Cal (Medicaid). OBBBA's changes to the Child Tax Credit will worsen the financial well-being for the lowest income families in California and throughout the U.S. For example, a family with two parents and two eligible children would have to earn more than \$35,900 to get the full \$2,500 tax credit for each child.

If you think Rep. Kiley thinks he's being tricked when he believes he's helping you, let him know too. If you're his constituent, he should be working for your well-being — not his.

Jim Driggers, Concord

https://www.theunion.com/news/community/ideas-opinions-jim-driggers-does-rep-kiley-think-hes-being-tricked/article_8310840f-f2d7-4d6e-8007-cecd8391c3a4.html

The Mercury News

Letters: Best way to influence Congress is to tell them what you want East Bay Times reader letters to the editor for Dec. 24, 2025

PUBLISHED: December 23, 2025 at 4:30 PM PST

To influence Congress, tell them what you want

My representative in the House of Representatives is Mark DeSaulnier. On Friday, I was able to attend his last virtual town hall for the year. During the meeting, I thanked him for his past support of the [Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria](#), and asked whether he would again support full funding for the Global Fund (\$4.6 billion over three years) and support language to prevent the administration from rescinding past or future money Congress appropriates for the fund. I was pleased to hear his emphatic yes to my question.

There are many ways constituents can influence politicians to better represent them in Congress. Some of the best are meeting with, calling and writing them to clearly express what programs and policies we want them to support. Politicians aren't mind readers. We have to tell them what we want.

Jim Driggers
Concord

This letter also appeared in *East Bay Times*

<https://www.mercurynews.com/2025/12/23/letters-influence-congress-tell-what-you-want/>
<https://www.eastbaytimes.com/2025/12/23/letters-influence-congress-tell-what-you-want/>

HOUSTON CHRONICLE

If constituents don't speak up, politicians won't listen | Opinion

Dec 30, 2025

Calling out politicians

Regarding "[A year of Grinches in politics has hurt Texans](#)," (Dec. 18): Jeffrey Dixon said he was afraid the "Grinches will not hear the Whos singing and experience growing hearts." I share that fear. We need more Whos — us constituents — singing, so our elected representatives and senators can hear us.

Sadly, most politicians these days don't hear enough from their constituents. If we want those in Congress to support ACA subsidies, SNAP benefits, tax credits for hard-working Americans and effective international development programs, such as the GFATM, etc., we as constituents need to clearly tell our politicians that in letters, phone calls, social media posts and meetings. If politicians don't support what we constituents want them to support, the fault is ours for not making it a high enough priority. We also need to hold them accountable for their actions with our votes. Only if enough Whos sing those songs will our Grinches get bigger hearts.

Jim Driggers, Concord

<https://www.houstonchronicle.com/opinion/letters/article/texas-houston-politics-voting-congress-21260857.php>

The Mercury News

Letters: Next appropriations bill must restore SNAP cuts

East Bay Times reader letters to the editor for Jan. 18, 2026

PUBLISHED: January 16, 2026 at 4:30 PM PST

Next budget deal must undo SNAP cuts

When the shutdown ended, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) was reinstated, only through Jan. 30.

The next appropriation bill must undo the cuts that require states to pay a share of SNAP food benefit costs, shifting many millions of dollars in annual costs to California. California cannot be expected to cover federal disinvestment in a national nutrition program.

This devastating cost shift would create impossible choices for California state and municipal bodies to fund critical services. Which programs will be cut: SNAP, housing, health care, early childhood education?

The next federal appropriation bill must eliminate this provision. Congress must act quickly, at least by delaying the cost share until 2030. Urge your members of Congress to repeal harmful SNAP cost shifts to states.

Susan Wright
Oakland

This letter also appeared in *East Bay Times*

<https://www.mercurynews.com/2026/01/16/letters-appropriations-bill-restore-snap-cuts/>

EAST BAY TIMES

East Bay Times reader letters to the editor for April 26, 2026

PUBLISHED: April 24, 2026 at 4:30 PM PDT

Local reps demonstrate the values Jesus taught

Re: "[Trump's behavior is opposite of Jesus](#)" (Page A6, April 17).

Kit Miller's letter matches my opinion. I wonder whether and how long it will take the president's supporters to break through their denial of reality. Miller's mention of USAID is particularly poignant.

After President Trump's insane decision to eliminate USAID last year, betray his constitutional duty to respect Congress' power of the purse and funding for international development programs, and break signed contracts for programs that were ending international poverty and safeguarding American security, it's gratifying to see congressional support for restoring funding to cost-effective development programs. I hope the State Department has hired back many former USAID workers to regain their institutional knowledge.

Thanks to Reps. Mark DeSaulnier and Mike Thompson for supporting these programs and being good Samaritans.

Jim Driggers*Concord*

EAST BAY TIMES

East Bay Times reader letters to the editor for May 29, 2026

PUBLISHED: May 28, 2026 at 4:30 PM PDT

Senate must fully fund housing vouchers

The tactics employed in Iran by the Trump administration benefit predatory billionaires and further financially subjugate the masses.

Our president stated that federal funding [must not be spent](#) on daycare, but has directed billions to the war with Iran. Hopefully, our Congress will spare some of the hundreds of billions of dollars of warfare funding and use it to help the millions of Americans who are rent-burdened due to spending more than 30% of their income on rent.

Housing Choice Vouchers and other special choice vouchers currently help 2.4 million households. But due to chronic underfunding, only 1 in 4 eligible households are being served.

Sen. Adam Schiff and Sen. Alex Padilla must urge the Senate Committee on Appropriations to increase funding to fully renew the current vouchers and add 250,000 new vouchers in fiscal year 2027.

Ricardo Narvaez*Concord*

EAST BAY TIMES

Letters: America's promise seen in the victories of the vulnerable

East Bay Times reader letters to the editor for July 10, 2026

PUBLISHED: July 9, 2026 at 4:30 PM PDT

Victories by the weak show America's promise

Re: "[U.S. celebrates 250th as country](#)" (Page A1, July 5).

The article inspired me. Reporter Steven Sloan wrote, "Vice President JD Vance said small but loud voices would speak on America's birthday about its imperfections instead of its greatness." Sloan quoted Vance: "They will tell you that America is just another country, where the weak struggle against the strong."

America is strong because its weak sometimes win against the strong and lessen our national imperfections. The weak sometimes restore the Declaration of Independence's "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" rights usurped by the strong. The end of slavery and the rise of workers' rights, women's rights and civil rights are examples.

The quotation from New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani is a call to action: "Those ideals upon which our nation was built — they are strong enough to endure any authoritarian regime, but only if we reach for them."

Jim Driggers*Concord*