

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/>