



## Closing the Meal Gap Act of 2020

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People are hurting in America today. Many are losing their jobs and struggling to put food on the table. The COVID-19 pandemic has only amplified the economic challenges families were already facing. It's time for Congress to do more to ease this burden by expanding and strengthening Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to help people put food on the table and make ends meet.

SNAP supports vulnerable community members that are struggling to put food on the table for themselves and their families. However, there are a number of problems that Congress must address:

- **Insufficient benefits don't do enough to help families weather this historic crisis.**
- **Overly burdensome barriers and restrictions ignore reality of today's economy & make it harder for people to receive the support they need.**
- **Discriminates against those who live and work in Puerto Rico, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands.**

U.S. Senators Kamala D. Harris and Kirsten Gillibrand are introducing the *Closing the Meal Gap Act of 2020*, which would help families put food on the table by modernizing and improving SNAP to meet the needs of the moment:

- **Increases Benefits.** Increases the baseline for SNAP benefits by approximately 30%. This better aligns with how household needs, and allows for a more nutritional diet.
- **Eliminates Eligibility Limits & Unrealistic Barriers.** Eliminates time limits for people struggling to find work from receiving SNAP benefits.
- **Expands Benefits For Territories.** Stops discrimination against those who live and work in U.S. territories by transitioning them to SNAP and treating them as if they were states.