

April 20 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
House Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

*Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leaders McConnell, Schumer, and McCarthy,*

Thank you for the work you are already doing to help families and communities affected by COVID-19 in our country. As we face this unprecedented challenge, I hope I can ask you to take every possible action to support low-income families.

Many of the most vulnerable children in America have missed nearly 740 million meals at school, due to closures resulting from the rapid spread of coronavirus. With parents facing lost jobs and wages, many of these children are going hungry.

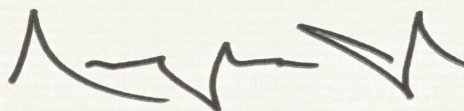
Frontline organizations have told me that the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) - a lifeline for low-income families - requires urgent strengthening to ensure that our nation's most vulnerable children get access to the food and nutrition they need. I hope you will use your position and influence to help ensure that Congress:

- Increases maximum SNAP benefits by at least 15%, and increases the minimum benefit from \$16 to \$30, to help families make ends meet. This is the minimum recommended by economists and leading food insecurity experts and service providers.
- Provide US Department of Agriculture with the authority to expand eligibility for the Restaurant Meals Program (RMP) to all SNAP households.

Increasing buying power and flexibility for SNAP participants will allow them to access the nutrition they need to weather this crisis, and stimulate local economies to support a stronger, faster recovery once the emergency has passed.

While strengthening SNAP will not alleviate all of the challenges low-income families are facing during the public health emergency, it will help ensure that fewer children go to bed hungry in our country. I hope that you will give this urgent consideration, alongside other steps to address the many needs faced by families in America at this time.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Angelina Jolie', with a stylized, flowing script.

**Angelina Jolie**