

June 13, 2025



United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators,

As parents from every corner of the country, we are calling on you not to cut the programs families, including our own, need to give our children the strongest start in life.

For the past nine years, our babies have come to Capitol Hill as part of *Strolling Thunder*, a movement to share our stories with lawmakers and to ask you to support us and our infants and toddlers. We've taken time off work, navigated stairwells with strollers, and stepped into your offices to ask for one simple thing: that you write policies that put our children on the path to success. And today, we are speaking up again—because the decisions you make in the coming days will have lasting consequences not only for families like ours, but for families for generations to come.

We are deeply concerned about legislation passed by the U.S. House of Representatives called “The One Big Beautiful Bill Act,” which would cut critical programs like Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)—programs that help families in every state in the country meet their most basic needs.

For many of us, Medicaid and SNAP have made all the difference in giving our children the healthy, happy home they deserve. Medicaid has let us take our babies for regular checkups, developmental screenings, and emergency care. SNAP has helped us afford increasingly expensive formula, baby food, and healthy meals. These programs have also allowed us, as parents and caregivers, to stay healthy enough to give our children the care and attention they need for a strong start. SNAP and Medicaid have filled baby bottles, covered childbirth costs, and caught health conditions like cancer.

These proposed cuts won't just strain our household budgets. They will create massive holes in state budgets, which states will fill by cutting even more services our families and children rely upon. If states lose federal funding, we are worried about what they will be forced to cut next, whether it is the child care we need to study or work, the community services that keep our streets safe, or the early intervention services that our babies need. Cuts to Medicaid and SNAP will be borne on the backs of babies and families.

As your constituents and as families just trying to give our children the best start in life, we are asking you to reject any bill or reconciliation proposal that cuts critical programs for young

children and families. And, critically, **don't cut Medicaid, SNAP, and other basic needs programs families like ours need to survive.**

Congress, you can be the hero in our babies' and children's stories. The time to step up is now.

Sincerely,

**Alabama**

Natalie Shields, 2024

**Alaska**

Sabrina Donnellan, 2024

Joanna Forst, 2023

**Arizona**

Karla Garcia, 2022

Destiny Prieto, 2019

Sharmarie Street, 2024

**Arkansas**

Jenny Castillo, 2024

**California**

Chloe Medina, 2023

**Colorado**

Jaid Redmon Greene, 2025

**Connecticut**

Kevin G., 2020

Quanisha Grier, 2022

**Delaware**

Charlein Downs, 2025

**Florida**

Ana Castillo, 2025

Kim Young, 2024

**Georgia**

Rachell Dumas and Nazaire Dumas-Alexander, 2025

Dolisha Mitchell, 2024

**Hawaii**

Suma Metla, 2025

**Idaho**

Aaron Padilla, 2024

**Illinois**

Paige Parrish-Fryman and David Fryman, 2025

Amber Summers, 2024

**Indiana**

Brianna Lane, 2025

**Iowa**

Nelle Gardalen, 2021

Elizabeth Kehret, 2019

Amy Kroblin, 2025

Katey Rascon, 2024

Kayla Swarz, 2023

**Kansas**

Victoria Fleming, 2023

Abigail Sanny, 2021

**Kentucky**

Mahogany Livers, 2023

**Louisiana**

Katherine Hickie and Katalina Marshall, 2025

Cameron Hulin, 2024

Pasqueal Nguyen, 2021

Sherelle Porter, 2023

**Maine**

Clarice Lima, 2023

Kasey McBlais, 2021

Megan Newsome, 2025

April Tardiff, 2024

**Maryland**

Regina Zappi, 2025

**Massachusetts**

Avery Fisher, 2024

Katherin Hudkins, 2025

**Michigan**

Rebecca L. Amidon, 2024

Ashley Ledon, 2025

Emily Rodenbeck, 2018

**Minnesota**

Hannah Johnson, 2019

Sara Suda, 2025

**Mississippi**

Daisy Carter-Slater, 2025

Robin Y. Jackson, 2024

**Missouri**

T'Kayla Callahan, 2025

Chris Corcoran, 2020

Wendy DuCassé, 2019

Sarah Cheatham Oberle, 2022

Paula-Breonne Vickers, 2024

**Montana**

Crystal Bohn, 2025

**Nebraska**

Kamber Carlson, 2025

**Nevada**

Jenna, 2022

**New Hampshire**

Stevie Klein, 2025

Liz Sommers, 2019

**New Jersey**

Juliana Gomes Duarte, 2024

Christina Reed, 2025

**New Mexico**

Jean Elizabeth Braun, 2024

**New York**

Victoria Brown, 2025

**North Carolina**

Marilyn Bernabe, 2023

Rev. Katie Cashwell, 2022

Hayleigh Marshall, 2024

Angel Powell, 2025

JoAnn Sofis White, 2017

**North Dakota**

Erica Hoggarth, 2024

Alexa Lajimodiere, 2022

Heather Muscha Metcalf, 2023

**Ohio**

Allison Ragland, 2021

Ashley Skelly, 2023

Deanna Szente, 2025

Chanta Walker, 2024

**Oklahoma**

Dena Drabek, 2024

Grace Rogers, 2025

**Oregon**

Lacie Nelson, 2023

**Pennsylvania**

Kelsey Schnur, 2024

**Rhode Island**

Nashaly Salazar Martinez, 2025

**South Carolina**

Lauren Bailey, 2025

Jessica Sharp, 2018

**South Dakota**

Marisa Freeman, 2025

Jessi, 2024

**Tennessee**

Carly Hambrick, 2025

**Texas**

Shawnnita Buckner, 2019

Nkenge Howard Lewis, 2022

Dorothy Madera, 2023

**Utah**

Jeralyn Perkins, 2025

Paige Walston, 2024

**Vermont**

Ilia Gilligan, 2023

Jennifer Hayes, 2017

**Virginia**

Felicia Harvelle, 2025

Ivonne Limongi, 2021

Elizabeth Sabol, 2024

Kathryn Zeanah, 2017

**Washington**

Elizabeth Ballou, 2024

Heather Cantamessa, 2021

**Washington, D.C.**

Stacie Adams, 2024

Annie Maldonado, 2025

**West Virginia**

Sarah Brown-Daugherty, 2025

Christy Eaves and Dalton Parsons, 2018

Anna Lara, 2020

Katelyn Vandal, 2023

**Wisconsin**

Kaleena Daugherty, 2025

Valencia Nelson, 2024

**Wyoming**

Cheyenne Brown, 2025

Julie Hampton-Lyon, RDN, LD, 2022