



Feed America, Cut Government

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“More people in the United States are going hungry now than during the depths of the COVID-19 pandemic six years ago,” a National Public Radio report [tells](#) us, citing a new survey by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

The New York Fed “periodically asks Americans whether they’re having to skip meals, having to rely on food donations or receiving federal assistance to buy groceries.” Ten percent of families nationwide reported missing meals because their cupboards were bare.

This isn’t the result of a breakdown in production and distribution of food, for “food insecurity” rates are two times higher in “families earning less than

\$50,000 a year.”

NPR notes that inflation — especially the rapid increase in prices at the gas pump — has made everything harder for everybody.

Gas prices are even higher than during COVID. Reduce fuel taxes now. To really lower prices, end the wars in the Middle East. And ending the ethanol mandate would nudge farmers back to actually feeding people, at the very least reducing corn prices.

Finally, SNAP program subsidies are being reduced over the next decade, a result of the Big Beautiful Bill. To help these “food stamps” actually feed folks during this period, SNAP should be further *reduced*.

That is, *in scope* . . . across all states.

This is about trade-offs: Restricting these subsidies from paying for sugary soft drinks, candy, and the like, are underway, state by state, but by the end of the year, [fewer than half](#) of these United States will have done so. Taxpayers in *all* states should demand subsidies that actually help folks, rather than sending them on a slow train to the hospital.

This is Common Sense. I’m Paul Jacob.