

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 28, 2025

The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Madam Secretary:

As the federal government shutdown continues, we write to express serious concern regarding the impact on families in Puerto Rico who rely on the Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP) to meet their basic food needs. All Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and NAP recipients are entitled to benefits through the contingency fund that Congress appropriated that currently has between \$5 and \$6 billion available for use during a lapse in appropriations.

Tens of thousands of households across Puerto Rico depend on NAP to purchase food and support their families. Any delay or reduction in benefits would have immediate and severe consequences for vulnerable populations, including seniors, children, and low-income workers already struggling with higher food costs and limited access to relief programs during the shutdown.

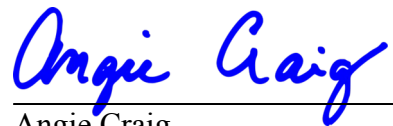
We urge the U.S. Department of Agriculture to take all available administrative actions to ensure continuity of benefits for NAP recipients, including utilizing remaining balances and identifying any available authorities or contingency mechanisms to prevent an interruption in food assistance. Puerto Rico's families should not be left behind simply because the Administration refuses to use its legal authorities and resources.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter and for your continued work to support food security for all Americans, including those in Puerto Rico.

Sincerely,



Pablo José Hernández
Member of Congress



Angie Craig
Ranking Member
Committee on Agriculture



Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress
Ranking Member, Committee on
Appropriations

CC: Director Russell Vought, Office of Management and Budget