

Rosy Millan

From: Nancy K. Stevenson [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 2:40 PM
To: COB_mail
Subject: Please Protect Refugee Access to Food Assistance

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Dear Chair and Members of the Pima County Board:

As an Iskashitaa Refugee Network ally and donor, I strongly urge the Board of Supervisors to take all possible actions to advocate with DES and state leadership to mitigate the impact of H.R. 1.

It is essential that the board protects access to essential food assistance for all Pima County residents — including our newest residents. Your strong support of Pima County's efforts is essential toward protecting refugee families and other vulnerable residents from the harmful effects of H.R. 1 and related reductions to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

For more than two decades, Iskashitaa Refugee Network has worked tirelessly to strengthen Tucson's food system through education, partnerships, and providing initiatives that reduce food loss, food waste, and hunger. Refugees and resident asylum seekers from more than 57 ethnic groups have not only received food but they are actively harvesting, gleaning, and redistributing it to others in need through IRN. Each year, Iskashitaa has helped gleaned thousands of pounds of backyard fruits and vegetables, with more than half donated to local food banks, shelters, and tribal partners — reaching far beyond the refugee community.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to a maintain a food-secure Southern Arizona.

Sincerely,

Nancy Stevenson

Pima County resident

Rosy Millan

From: Rabbi Malcolm Cohen <rabbimalcolm@katucson.org>
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 11:54 AM
To: COB_mail
Subject: SNAP

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CAUTION: This message and sender come from outside Pima County. If you did not expect this message, proceed with caution. Verify the sender's identity before performing any action, such as clicking on a link or opening an attachment.

Dear Chair and Members of the Board,

I am writing in strong support of Pima County's efforts to protect refugee families and other vulnerable residents from the harmful effects of H.R. 1 and related reductions to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

We recognize that SNAP is meant to be supplemental. However, without this crucial support in their first years of resettlement, refugees struggle to meet their families' basic needs while learning English, developing marketable skills, and finding employment. The loss or reduction of SNAP benefits at this stage could severely hinder their ability to become self-sufficient and integrated members of our community. Barriers to becoming legal permanent residents (green card holders), increased eligibility requirements for SNAP benefits all increase the possibility of evictions of Pima county residents.

We urge the Board of Supervisors to take all possible actions to advocate with DES and state leadership to mitigate the impact of H.R. 1 and protect access to essential food assistance for all Pima County residents — including our newest neighbors.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to a compassionate, food-secure Southern Arizona.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Malcolm Cohen
Kol Ami Synagogue

COB
RM