



A Member of Feeding America

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**Statement by Jan Pruitt, president and CEO of North Texas Food Bank
on the Farm Bill**

“The Farm Bill will cut \$8.55 billion in SNAP funding affecting 15 states and the District of Columbia. The cuts do not affect Texas SNAP recipients. However North Texas families receiving SNAP benefits, some 463,000, absorbed \$16 million in monthly cuts this past November 1st. These cuts increased the demand for food from NTFB’s 262 Partner Agencies. Further, NTFB is 1.4 million meals behind Year 3 of our Strategic Plan, ReThink Hunger.

The Farm Bill includes an additional \$205 million investment in The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), which provides nutritious food to food banks and other emergency food providers, and a new dairy donation program that will benefit low-income families. The additional TEFAP funds will not replace the meals lost from the SNAP cuts, but they are critical to meeting the needs in our communities. The bill also further strengthens SNAP program integrity, protects SNAP nutrition education and improves access to healthy food options.

As the North Texas Food Bank moves forward, our mission is clear: Hunger is unacceptable and working with our donors and supporters, we continue to fight hunger in our North Texas communities. “

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About The North Texas Food Bank

The North Texas Food Bank (NTFB) is a top-ranked nonprofit relief organization. Leading the fight against hunger in our community, we distribute donated, purchased, and prepared foods through a network of more than 1,000 feeding programs and 262 Partner Agencies in 13 counties. Since 1982, NTFB has distributed more than half a billion pounds of food. NTFB supports the nutritional needs of North Texans through research, education, advocacy and strategic partnerships. In fiscal year 2013, NTFB provided access to 62 million nutritious meals. NTFB is a member of Feeding America, a national hunger relief organization (feedingamerica.org).