

# San Francisco Chronicle

## Letters to the Editor, Feb. 24

### **SNAP support is necessary**

Regarding “GOP congressman faces critics at town hall” (Feb. 22): In response to your coverage of California Rep. Tom McClintock’s Mariposa Fairgrounds and Exposition Center town hall meeting, I applaud him for listening to the interests of Americans who feel left behind by deepening national concerns. In addition to concerns about the Affordable Care Act and climate change, the congressman should know that 1 in 9 Californians relies on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Antipoverty programs are making an impact, reducing the poverty rate by half in many places across the country. SNAP serves as a lifeline to 43 million people, nearly half of them children. So it’s truly puzzling that some members of Congress are preparing to attack key pillars of our safety net programs, programs their constituents depend on to survive. I hope that McClintock is truly paying attention and will take positive action.

Now more than ever, we need Congress to focus on helping hardworking people across the country make ends meet, not put up roadblocks in their way. We must stand up against schemes to undermine the effectiveness of antipoverty health and nutrition programs via structural changes such as block grants and efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

*Lori Saltveit, Corte Madera*

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