



Missouri House of Representatives

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State Rep. Jeremy Dean Responds to Loss of Federal Food Aid, Calls on Washington Leaders to End Shutdown and Protect SNAP Access

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – State Representative Jeremy Dean (D–Springfield) issued the following statement in response to recent reporting by the *Missouri Independent* revealing that Missouri lost 1.6 million pounds of federal food aid this year due to administrative cuts and the ongoing government shutdown in Washington, D.C.:

“The loss of over a million pounds of federal food aid is more than a policy setback, it’s a direct blow to Missouri families already struggling to put food on the table.

Here in District 132, nearly half of all adults and children (47.1%) are considered food insecure, according to the Missouri Foundation for Health. For families in our community, the possibility of further reductions to SNAP benefits isn’t an abstract policy debate, it’s a question of whether or not they’ll eat next week.

Right now, the dysfunction in Washington is making a bad situation worse. The ongoing government shutdown threatens critical nutrition programs, disrupts funding for food banks, and undermines the safety nets that working families rely on. While Missouri families are stretching every dollar, too many leaders in D.C. are playing political games with people’s livelihoods.

I’m calling on congressional leaders to return to the negotiating table and end this shutdown immediately. We need a functioning government that prioritizes real people - not partisan gridlock.

Hunger isn't a partisan issue - it's a human one. We must strengthen, not weaken, the programs that protect working families, children, and seniors. Every day that Washington delays action, more Missouri families are forced to make impossible choices between food, rent, and medicine."

Representative Jeremy Dean, a Democrat, represents parts of Greene County (District 132) in the Missouri House of Representatives. He was elected to his first two-year term in November 2024. For more information, please contact Rep. Dean by phone at 573-751-3795 or email at Jeremy.Dean@House.Mo.Gov.

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