

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

December 12, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump:

Across the country, American families are struggling to keep up with the rising cost of living. Groceries, energy, rent, childcare, and health care have all skyrocketed compared to previous years. Now, following the longest government shutdown in U.S. history, paychecks are still struggling to keep pace with the rising cost of living. Working families are being forced to make impossible choices of feeding their children or paying their bills. Millions of American families across the nation are asking the same pressing question: When will the cost of living finally become affordable again?

Despite repeated promises to deliver a “Golden Age for America,” your Administration has not presented a serious plan to lower costs for working- and middle-class families.¹ Instead, H.R. 1 imposed the largest health care cuts in U.S. history, reduced food assistance for more than 4 million Americans who rely on nutritional programs each month, and slashed incentives to encourage alternative sources of domestic energy production.² These actions increased the cost of living and lowered after-tax income for the bottom 40 percent of earners, while giving the top 20 percent of earners a \$6,000 per year average tax cut.^{3 4}

At the same time, your tariff policies, initially billed as a boost to the U.S. economy, have been legally challenged and have led to higher prices on groceries and household goods. Rather than addressing the primary drivers of inflation, housing shortages, high health care and childcare costs, and supply-chain instability, your Administration has prioritized policies that cut essential,

1 President Trump’s America First Priorities, White House (Jan. 20, 2025), <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/2025/01/president-trumps-america-first-priorities/>.

2 Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, *By the Numbers: Harmful Republican Megabill Takes Food Assistance Away From Millions of People*, CBPP (Aug. 14, 2025), <https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/by-the-numbers-harmful-republican-megabill-takes-food-assistance-away-from>

3 Colin Seeberger et al., *10 Egregious Things You May Not Know About the One Big Beautiful Bill Act*, Center for American Progress (July 3, 2025), <https://www.americanprogress.org/article/10-egregious-things-you-may-not-know-about-the-one-big-beautiful-bill-act/>

4 Council on Foreign Relations, *Congress’s “One Big Beautiful Bill” Will Shrink Renewable Energy Investments—Yet Some Technologies Are Preserved*, CFR (Aug. 4, 2025), <https://www.cfr.org/article/congresss-one-big-beautiful-bill-will-shrink-renewable-energy-investments-yet-some>

everyday services for working class families. As a result, our economy does not work for everyone, and instead, prices remain high, job growth has slowed, and household debt has reached record levels. Families are paying thousands more per year for the same essentials, and the promise of a strong middle class remains unfulfilled.⁵

American families need real solutions: increasing the affordable housing supply, reducing prescription drug and healthcare costs, expanding access to affordable childcare, stabilizing supply chains, and ensuring wages rise in line with inflation. These are the staples of a sustainable working economy.

The American people deserve straight answers. We urge you to please answer the following questions by **Monday, December 29, 2025**:

1. What is your Administration's comprehensive plan to reduce the overall cost of living for working- and middle-class families? How will you ensure that wages can once again keep pace with basic household expenses?
2. What specific goals has your Administration established to strengthen the weakening U.S. labor market, expand middle-class job opportunities, and ensure that families are not left behind in a changing economy?
3. Your Administration and the Republican Party have repeatedly promised to reduce healthcare costs, yet premiums and out-of-pocket expenses continue to rise. When will you finally produce a comprehensive strategy to ensure healthcare remains affordable and accessible for all Americans?
4. Your Administration promised to slash electricity prices in half for Americans, instead you scaled back clean-energy initiatives from the Inflation Reduction Act and Americans are paying on average \$100 more in electricity prices this year compared to last year.⁶ What steps is your Administration taking to reduce utility bills and fuel costs while expanding affordable, reliable energy options for American families?
5. What is your agenda for ensuring Americans have access to quality, affordable housing, and how do you plan to address the growing housing shortage?
6. How will your tariff policies reduce rather than increase the cost of living for working and middle-class families?

You have an obligation to work to put forth policies that reduce costs, strengthen paychecks, and restore faith that the government can work for ordinary families.

Sincerely,

⁵ The Hidden Costs of Trump's Economy: Skipped Meals, Rising Debt, and the Impossible Choices Facing American Families, The Century Foundation (July 31, 2025), <https://tcf.org/content/report/the-hidden-costs-of-trumps-economy-skipped-meals-rising-debt-and-the-impossible-choices-facing-american-families/>.

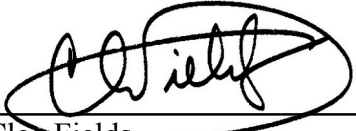
⁶ Joint Econ. Comm. – Minority, State-by-State Data: Annual Electricity Bills Up \$100 Per Family in 2025 (Nov. 2025), https://www.jec.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/22e24fd6-4db7-44c6-93a9-9710c6f48b85/electricity-bills-report.pdf



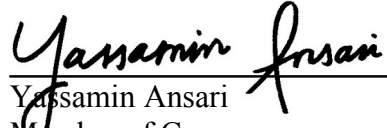
Wesley Bell
Member of Congress



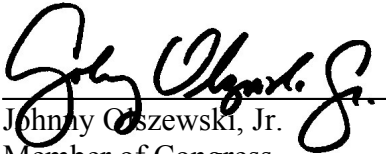
Adelita S. Grijalva
Member of Congress



Cleo Fields
Member of Congress



Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress



Johnny Oszewski, Jr.
Member of Congress