

*“I was hungry and you . . . ”*

*taxed my groceries?*

**Alabama congregations are generous in giving food to people in need.** However, it’s not enough to provide relief – even on a massive scale – if we ignore the systemic causes of poverty.



**Alabama’s 4 percent sales tax on groceries makes it that much harder for many families to make ends meet.** If we end our grocery tax, we can lower the weekly grocery bill for every Alabama family by \$2 per person.

**It doesn’t sound like much,** but it adds up. Over a year’s time, a family of four would save some \$400. Spread across all of Alabama’s struggling households, a single policy decision in Montgomery can outweigh the dollar value

of all the food we give away. That’s not to say we should *replace* charity with advocacy. But it does mean we can also feed people by speaking up for policy change.

**House Bill 1 would remove the state portion of the sales tax on groceries** and over-the-counter medicines. To protect schools from a huge loss of funding, HB 1 would replace the money by capping an unusual deduction in the state income tax. Most of Alabama’s state income tax deduction for federal income tax goes to the highest earners – a deduction they wouldn’t get in Georgia or 38 other states. If HB 1 becomes law, 96 percent of Alabamians will pay less in taxes.

**Families are hurting.** HB 1 will help at the checkout line – and protect funding for schools. Write your state representative at

Rep. \_\_\_\_\_  
Alabama State House  
Montgomery, AL 36130

*Learn more at [untaxgroceries.org](http://untaxgroceries.org)*

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