

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

April 27, 2022

The Honorable Sanford Bishop
Chairman
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural
Development, FDA, & Related Agencies
2362-A Rayburn Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Andy Harris
Acting Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural
Development, FDA, & Related Agencies
2334 Rayburn Building
Washington, D.C

Dear Chairman Bishop and Ranking Member Fortenberry:

We write to urge the subcommittee to provide \$15 million in the FY 2023 Department of Agriculture Appropriations bill for grants under section 105 of the Healthy and Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-296) to help reduce the number of children who start the school day on an empty stomach and not adequately prepared to learn.

Requested funds will help local educational agencies and schools increase access to breakfast for low-income children, and establish, maintain, or expand their school breakfast programs.

Despite improvements, the latest [School Breakfast Scorecard](#) by the Food Research and Action Center using USDA data found that in the 2019-2020 school year, just over half (58.4 for every 100) of all low-income students who participated in school lunch also ate school breakfast—up from a ratio of 57.5 for the previous school year and 46.7:100 a decade earlier. Millions of eligible low-income students are missing an opportunity to start their school day strong. And as schools transition back to pre-covid school nutrition operations and work to overcome the learning disruptions created by the pandemic, ensuring access to school breakfast will be even more critical.

The science is clear: hunger hinders learning and child development. Connecting kids to programs like school breakfast helps ensure they get the healthy food they need to learn, grow, and remain attentive throughout the school day. When we invest in ensuring access to healthy breakfast and lunches through the child nutrition programs, we support the considerable investment in education made by federal, state, and local taxpayers while ensuring that the individual child has the best opportunity to learn.

We strongly support providing funding so that schools are able to reduce hunger among low-income students and boost education and health outcomes. By funding these grants, we can allow schools to choose the best options and practices that they believe will work to increase the number of children who start the day with a healthy breakfast.

Again, we urge you to provide \$15 million for grants to help schools remove barriers that keep eligible students from participating in school breakfast.

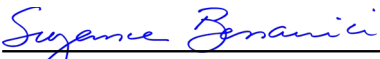
Sincerely,



Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress



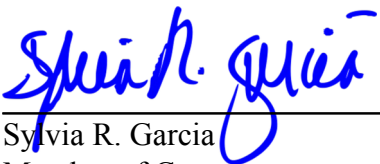
Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Lucy McBath
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



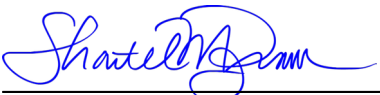
Ron Kind
Member of Congress



Al Green
Member of Congress



Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress



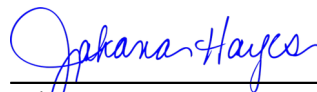
Shontel M. Brown
Member of Congress



Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress



Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress



Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress



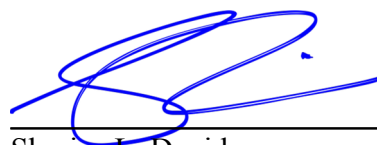
Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
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Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



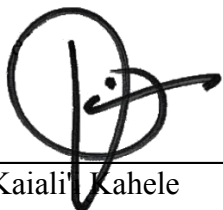
Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern
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André Carson
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Kaiuli Kahele
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Ruben Gallego
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Jerrold Nadler
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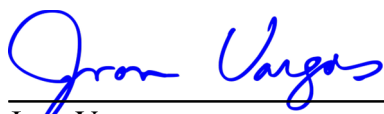
Jerry McNerney
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Ro Khanna
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Tom Malinowski
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Juan Vargas
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David N. Cicilline
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Josh Gottheimer
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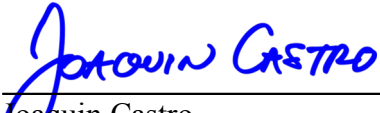
Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



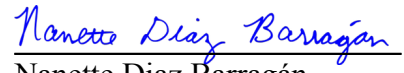
Stacey E. Plaskett
Member of Congress



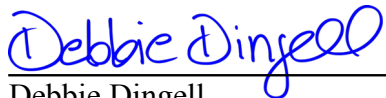
Nikema Williams
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Joaquin Castro
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Nanette Diaz Barragan
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Debbie Dingell
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Chris Pappas
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Cynthia Axne
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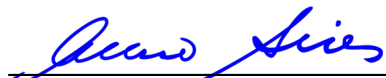
Peter Welch
Member of Congress



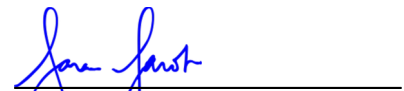
Sean Casten
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Dina Titus
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Albio Sires
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Sara Jacobs
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Thomas R. Suozzi
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Kathleen M. Rice
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Conor Lamb
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Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress



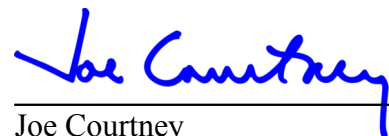
Tony Cárdenas
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Vicente Gonzalez
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Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



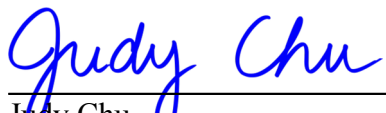
Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress



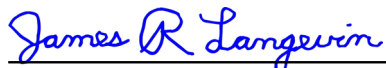
Jimmy Panetta
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Judy Chu
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Frank Pallone, Jr.
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James R. Langevin
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Julia Brownley
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Anthony G. Brown
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John Yarmuth
Member of Congress



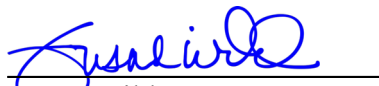
Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



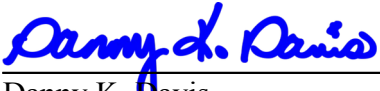
Frederica S. Wilson
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Joseph D. Morelle
Member of Congress



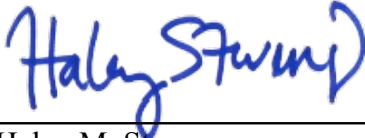
Susan Wild
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Marc A. Veasey
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Robin L. Kelly
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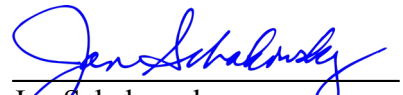
Jesús G. "Chuy" García
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Member of Congress



Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Kim Schrier, M.D.
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Darren Soto
Member of Congress



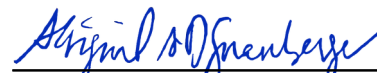
Ann McLane Kuster
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Eddie Bernice Johnson
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Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress




Abigail Davis Spanberger
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen
Member of Congress




Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



A. Donald McEachin
Member of Congress



Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress



Jackie Speier
Member of Congress



Marie Newman
Member of Congress



Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



Lisa Blunt Rochester
Member of Congress



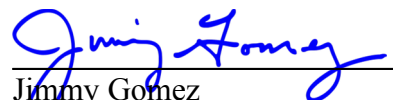
Colin Z. Allred
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Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress



Melanie Stansbury
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Jimmy Gomez
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