

Senator Klobuchar invites your Senators to join her in sending a letter to appropriators in support of funding for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP). This funding will ensure that CSFP continues to deliver over 730,000 food packages each month to seniors, and is able to address the current assigned caseload levels.

Alabama was recently approved to join CSFP and so the letter has been modified to reflect that the program serves all 50 states.

FY19 signers: Blumenthal, Shaheen, Murphy, Casey, Markey, Brown, Menendez, Manchin, Wyden, Stabenow, Schatz, Heitkamp, Peters, Baldwin, Kaine, Reed, Whitehouse, Duckworth, Warren, Cortez Masto, Coons, Hirono, Donnelly, Hassan, Harris, Sanders, Cardin, and Booker.

FY20 signers: Klobuchar, Murphy, Duckworth, Hassan, Blumenthal, Menendez, Baldwin, Harris, Shaheen, Casey, Rosen, Feinstein, Peters, Jones, and Hirono.

The **deadline to sign on is COB, Tuesday, April 16th**. If you have any questions or if your boss is interested in signing on please email Brian Werner at Brian_Werner@klobuchar.senate.gov or Alex Maki at Alexander_Maki@klobuchar.senate.gov.

April XX, 2019

The Honorable John Hoeven
Chairman
Appropriations Subcommittee on
Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and
Drug Administration, and Related Agencies
129 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Merkley
Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on
Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and
Drug Administration, and Related Agencies
125 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Hoeven and Ranking Member Merkley:

As your Subcommittee considers the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, we respectfully request that you provide no less than \$238.12 million for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP). This funding would support current assigned caseload levels. As you know, CSFP is a critical nutrition program that delivers up to 736,110 food packages each month to seniors with an income at or below \$16,237.

CSFP food packages are designed to supplement needed sources of nutrients typically lacking in participants' diets, including protein, iron, zinc, and vitamins B-6 and B-12. CSFP providers also have been very cost efficient: the typical food package has a retail value up to \$50, but costs the Federal government approximately \$23 per participant package. CSFP is an important component of our nutrition efforts because it reaches many seniors who qualify for no other program while providing delivery for those who are homebound in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, five Indian Tribal Organizations, and Puerto Rico.

It is vitally important that we continue to provide nutritious food to this vulnerable population. We thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,