

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 18, 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.

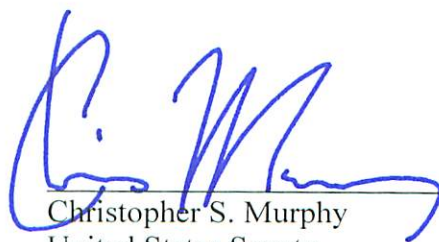
CSFP food packages are designed to supplement needed sources of nutrients typically lacking in participants' diets, including protein, iron, zinc, and vitamins B-6 and B-12. CSFP providers also have been very cost efficient: the typical food package has a retail value up to \$50, but costs the Federal 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,



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senate



Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senate



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senate



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senate



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senate



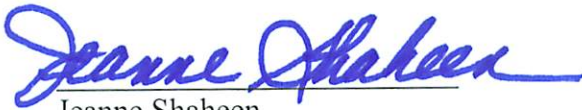
Robert Menendez
United States Senate



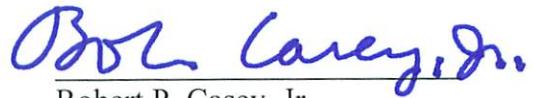
Tammy Baldwin
United States Senate



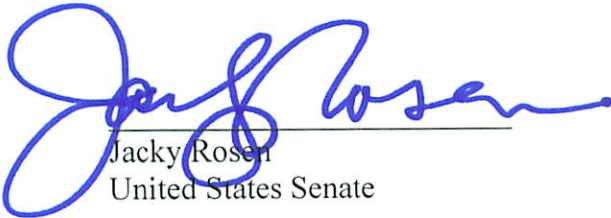
Kamala D. Harris
United States Senate



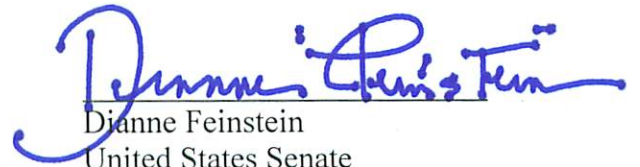
Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senate



Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senate



Jacky Rosen
United States Senate



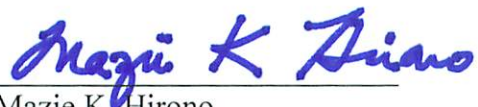
Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate



Gary C. Peters
United States Senate



Doug Jones
United States Senate



Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senate



Debbie Stabenow
United States Senate



Sherrod Brown
United States Senate



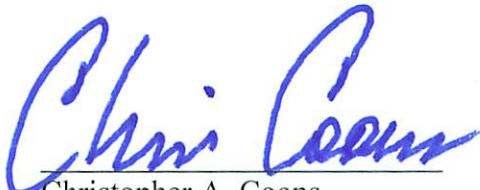
Tim Kaine
United States Senate



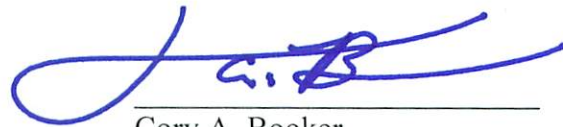
Joe Manchin II
United States Senate



Maria Cantwell
United States Senate



Christopher A. Coons
United States Senate



Cory A. Booker
United States Senate



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senate



Jack Reed
United States Senate



Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senate



Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senate

Edward J. Markey

Edward J. Markey
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Sheldon Whitehouse

Sheldon Whitehouse
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Ron Wyden

Ron Wyden
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Kyrsten Sinema

Kyrsten Sinema
United States Senate

Bert Sanders

Bernard Sanders
United States Senate

Kirsten Gillibrand

Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senate