

Prevent Seniors in Your District from Going Hungry: Support the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (FY23)

Sending Office: Honorable Andy Levin
Sent By: Courtney.Laudick@mail.house.gov

Request for Signature(s)

Prevent Seniors in Your District from Going Hungry Support the Commodity Supplemental Food Program

This is a programmatic request

Electronic submission instructions will be provided.

Deadline: Friday April 22, 2022 by COB

[SIGN ON QUILL HERE](#)

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Dear Colleague:

Please join us in urging the Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies to maintain support for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) The estimated appropriation needed is no less than \$338,640,000 for FY23. This is level with the President's FY23 budget request for this program.

In this time of continued economic hardship, support for effective programs to ensure our constituents' basic needs is more important than ever. The Commodity Supplemental Food Program provides up to 757,942 food packages each month in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, seven Indian Tribal Organizations, and Puerto Rico.

CSFP recipients are seniors with annual income levels at or below \$17,667 and many have no means of transportation. CSFP is often a program of last resort for seniors who qualify for no other form of nutrition assistance, and by providing delivery of fresh food packages, CSFP plays a crucial role in ensuring that even the homebound have their nutrition needs met.

We hope you will join us in asking the Chairman and Ranking Member to allocate sufficient funds for CSFP in FY 2023. Please [SIGN ON QUILL HERE](#) by April 22 COB to be added to the letter. If you have any questions, please contact Courtney Laudick at Courtney.Laudick@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

Andy Levin

Member of Congress

Letter Text:

Dear Chairman Bishop and Ranking Member Harris,

We write to express our strong support for preserving the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. We strongly urge you to provide sufficient funding to maintain the current caseload. Based on currently available program costs, we estimate that the funds appropriated to maintain current caseload for the program year will need to be no less than \$338,640,000 for FY 2023.

As you may know, CSFP is a critical nutrition program that delivers USDA commodities primarily to seniors. In this time of continued economic hardship, reliance on nutrition assistance is greater than ever. 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 that are homebound.

In FY 2022, CSFP will provide up to 757,942 food packages each month in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, seven Indian Tribal Organizations, and Puerto Rico. This year, program participants are elderly individuals with an income at or below \$17,667. CSFP food packages were redesigned in Spring 2020 to better supplement needed sources of nutrients typically lacking in participants' diets, including protein, iron, zinc, and vitamins B-6 and B-12.

As you begin the appropriations process for Fiscal Year 2023, we urge you to maintain sufficient funding for this important lifeline that supports many seniors in our communities. We appreciate your consideration of this important request and look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure that no American goes hungry.