

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 8, 2024

The Honorable Martin Heinrich
Chair, Appropriations Subcommittee on
Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug
Administration, and Related Agencies
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Hoeven
Ranking Member, Appropriations
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural
Development, Food and Drug Administration,
and Related Agencies
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Heinrich and Ranking Member Hoeven:

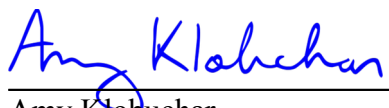
We write to express our strong support for preserving the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. Specifically, we ask that you provide \$425 million for FY 2025, the amount of funding needed to maintain the program's current caseload.

CSFP delivers nutritious United States Department of Agriculture food packages to low-income seniors at least 60 years of age with household income at or below 130 percent of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines. For example, to qualify, the annual income for a household of one senior would be less than \$19,578 (based on 2024 Poverty Guidelines). CSFP is authorized to operate in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and five Indian Tribal Organizations.

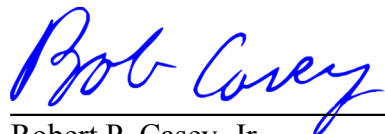
Currently, more than 730,000 low-income seniors rely on the program to put food on the table each month. CSFP food packages were recently updated to better supplement needed nutrients typically lacking from participants' diets. Packages include a variety of foods, such as nonfat dry and ultra high-temperature fluid milk, juice, farina, oats, ready-to-eat cereal, rice, pasta, peanut butter, dry beans, canned meat, poultry, or fish, and canned fruits and vegetables. With the cost of living on the rise, this program is more important than ever. If Congress fails to fully fund this critical program, our most vulnerable seniors will lose this access to the nutritious food they need to live healthier lives.

We appreciate your consideration of this important request and look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure that no American goes hungry.

Sincerely,



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



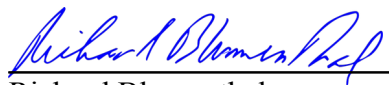
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Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
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Maria Cantwell
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Jack Reed
United States Senator



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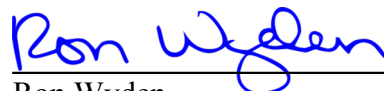
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Peter Welch
United States Senator



Tina Smith
United States Senator



Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator



Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator



Bernard Sanders
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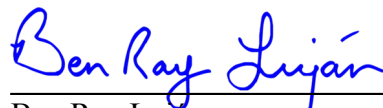
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United States Senator



Kyrsten Sinema
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Mark R. Warner
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United States Senator



Cory A. Booker
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Christopher S. Murphy
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