

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 22, 2025

The Honorable John Hoeven
Chairman
Appropriations Subcommittee on
Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA, and
Related Agencies
129 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen
Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on
Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA, and
Related Agencies
125 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Hoeven and Ranking Member Shaheen:

We write to express our strong support for preserving the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. Specifically, we ask that you provide sufficient funding for FY 2026, to maintain, at a minimum, 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 150 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 2025 Poverty Guidelines). CSFP is authorized to operate in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and eight Indian Tribal Organizations.

Currently, more than 707,000 low-income seniors rely on this 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 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,

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United States Senator



Tina Smith
United States Senator



Elissa Slotkin
United States Senator



Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senator



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