



May 22, 2024

Honorable Glenn "GT" Thompson
Chairman
House Committee on Agriculture

Honorable David Scott
Ranking Member
House Committee on Agriculture

Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Chairwoman
US Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Honorable John Boozman
Ranking Member
US Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Dear Chairman Thompson, Ranking Member Scott, Chairwoman Stabenow, and Ranking Member Boozman:

We are writing on behalf of the [Mayors Alliance to End Childhood Hunger](#) (Mayors Alliance), a nonpartisan coalition representing more than 380 American mayors from large and medium cities to communities and townships in all 50 states and Washington, DC. We work in partnership with Share Our Strength's No Kid Hungry campaign to ensure that every child has the healthy food they need to thrive. Our offices are on the frontline of responding to challenges in our communities, and as mayors, we need every option available to fight childhood hunger.

The Farm Bill is a complex legislative vehicle that governs an array of agriculture and food programs and provides policymakers an opportunity to comprehensively and routinely address those issues approximately every 5 years. While the Farm Bill has traditionally enjoyed broad support from across the ideological spectrum, the need for bipartisan cooperation is especially critical to the successful passage of the next Farm Bill in 2024. Competing proposals for the next Farm Bill were released by the US House of Representatives and Senate in May and both the House and Senate proposals include effective policies. We will continue to work with bipartisan leaders to ensure that any eventual Farm Bill supports and strengthens federal nutrition programs, especially SNAP, or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

The Mayors Alliance supports a Farm Bill that protects the value of SNAP benefits, increases access, and ensures an efficient and transparent program. We support the additional financial investments and common sense called for in both the Senate and House versions for programs that we know work.

We recognize that ending hunger is a complex problem that requires a complex solution. Anti-hunger programs like SNAP, WIC, Summer-EBT, and the National School Lunch Program/School Breakfast Program are intentionally complementary and work together to help feed families and children. We broadly support the Senate proposal and look forward to working with bipartisan leaders to build support for many of the proposed investments.

We are committed to continuing to work together to build stronger, healthier communities with more opportunities for all. While the government cannot undertake this effort alone, as elected leaders, we must use our voices to articulate a bold vision, convene leaders from across our communities, and advance policies designed to ensure all children have the opportunity to be safe and nourished, and live up to their full potential. We know

from extensive research and real-world results that when children have access to consistent daily nutrition, their overall academic, health, and economic outcomes improve significantly, underscoring the importance of our collective efforts.

We look forward to continuing this work together. Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,



Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome
Chair, Mayors Alliance
Baton Rouge, Louisiana



Mayor Mattie Parker
Vice-Chair, Mayors Alliance
Fort Worth, Texas