

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 15, 2016

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Chairman
Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug
Administration, and Related Agencies
235 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-6016

The Honorable Sam Farr
Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug
Administration and Related Agencies
1126 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-6016

Dear Chairman Aderholt and Ranking Member Farr,

We respectfully ask that you allocate \$236,120 million for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) in the Fiscal Year 2017 Agriculture Appropriations bill. This funding level is consistent with the President's fiscal year 2017 budget request. We support the budget request for an additional 20,000 slots, recognizing that states have asked for even more than this amount.

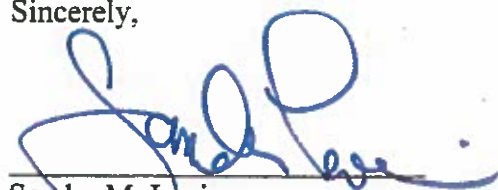
As you know, CSFP is a critical nutrition program that delivers U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) commodities primarily to seniors. In this time of continued economic hardship, reliance on nutrition assistance is greater than ever. CSFP is an important component of our nutrition efforts because it reaches many seniors who qualify for no other program while providing delivery for those that are homebound.

CSFP provides 619,000 food packages each month in 47 states, the District of Columbia, and 2 Indian Tribal Organizations. This year 99 percent of the participants are elderly individuals with an income at or below \$15,301. 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.

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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,



Sander M. Levin
Member of Congress



Matt Cartwright
Member of Congress



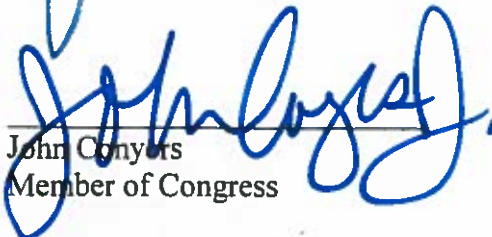
Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
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Chris Van Hollen
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John Conyers
Member of Congress



Raul M. Grijalva
Member of Congress



Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress



Mike Honda
Member of Congress



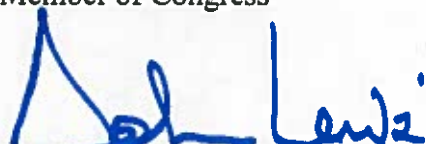
Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



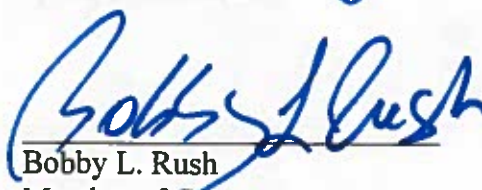
Donna F. Edwards
Member of Congress



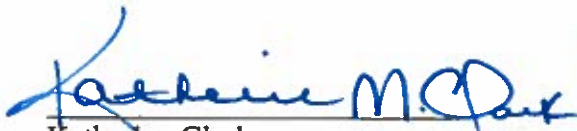
Charles Rangel
Member of Congress



John Lewis
Member of Congress



Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress



Katherine Clark
Member of Congress



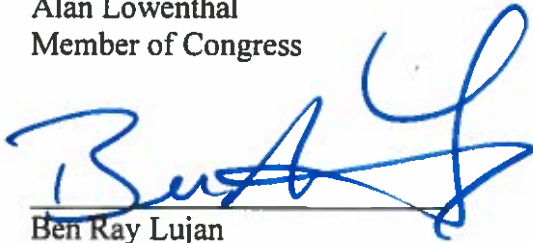
Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



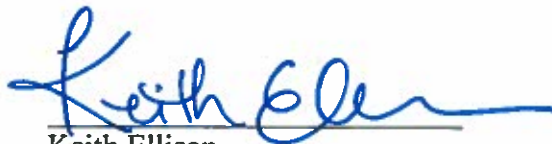
Ben Ray Lujan
Member of Congress



Elizabeth H. Esty
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Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress



Keith Ellison
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Dina Titus
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Zoe Lofgren
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Frederica S. Wilson
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Albio Sires
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Filemon Vela
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Donald M. Payne, Jr.
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David Scott
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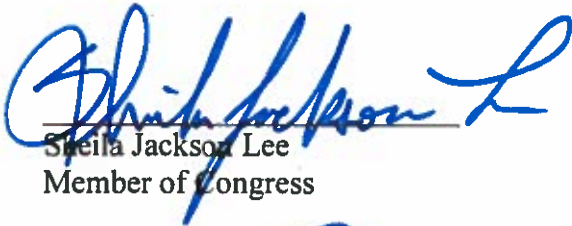
Kathy Castor
Member of Congress



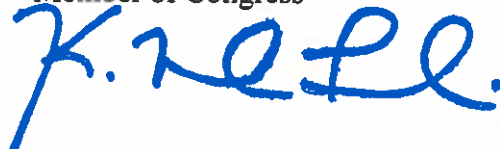
Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress



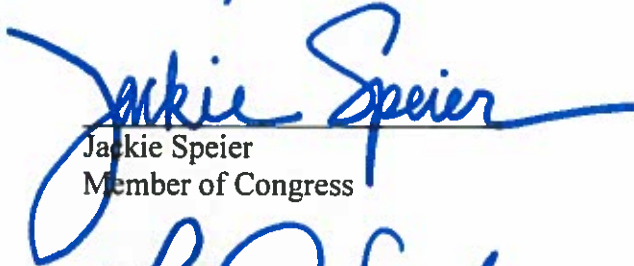
Raul Ruiz
Member of Congress



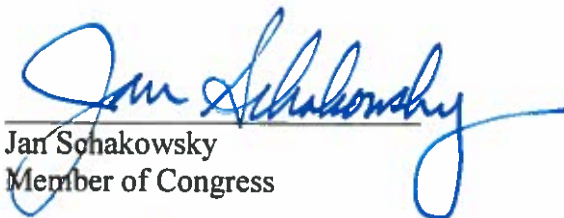
Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



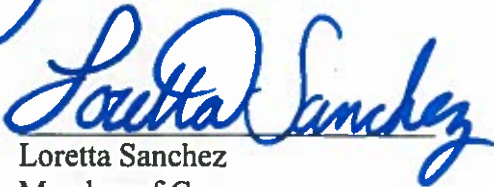
Mark Takai
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Jackie Speier
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Jan Schakowsky
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Loretta Sanchez
Member of Congress



Scott Peters
Member of Congress



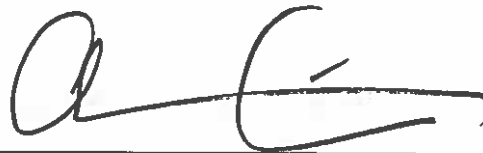
Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



Michelle Lujan Grisham
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Ted W. Lieu
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Andre' Carson
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster
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Louise M. Slaughter
Member of Congress



Ryan Costello
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Ann Kirkpatrick
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David N. Cicilline
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Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress



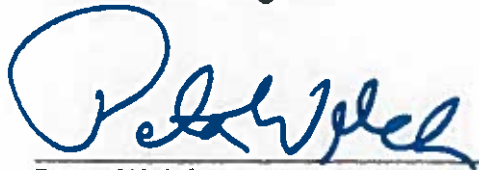
Chaka Fattah
Member of Congress



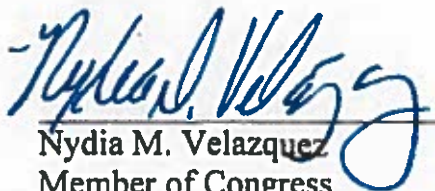
James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Elijah E. Cummings
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velazquez
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Janice Hahn
Member of Congress



Lucille Roybal-Allard
Member of Congress



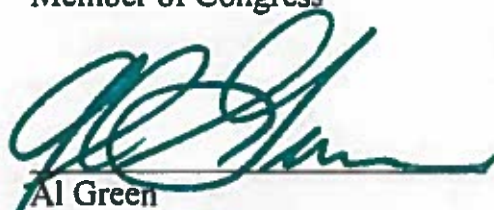
Diana DeGette
Member of Congress




Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress


Robert Brady
Member of Congress



Gene Green
Member of Congress


Al Green
Member of Congress


David Loebsack
Member of Congress



Linda Sanchez
Member of Congress

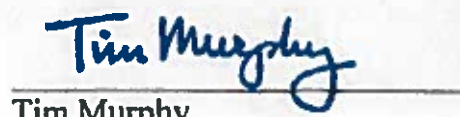

Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress


Peter DeFazio
Member of Congress



Ted Deutch
Member of Congress


Brenda L. Lawrence
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Eddie Bernice Johnson
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Tim Murphy
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Tulsi Gabbard
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