



October 9, 2017

The Honorable Jim McGovern
438 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rodney Davis
1740 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressmen McGovern and Davis:

The American Commodity Distribution Association (ACDA) and the School Nutrition Association (SNA) are pleased to inform you of our joint support for H.R. 3738, the *Healthy Breakfasts Help Kids Learn Act of 2017*, to provide an additional 6 cents in commodity support for the School Breakfast Program (SBP). The provision of breakfast commodity assistance is a top priority for both professional associations and has been for many years. We are eager to work with you in securing support for this important measure that will benefit students throughout the country.

The members of our organizations work daily to support the provision of healthy, appealing, affordable meals to children at school. The additional resources provided through the provision of commodities for breakfast meal service are vital to this important task. We know that when students have breakfast at school, they are less likely to be absent, they are more attentive and perform better academically. When the *Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act (HHFKA) of 2010* was enacted, no additional funds were provided to support the service of more nutritious school breakfasts, even though there were additional requirements for breakfast meal service that increased costs. Since the enactment of HHFKA, School Food Authorities have worked to provide a wide variety of breakfast options for students while continuously growing student participation as a means of supporting students' academic achievement. Your plan to supplement school breakfast meal rates with commodity support will be a significant help. As you both know, commodity support has historically been provided for the National School Lunch Program and is currently 23.25 cents per meal. This support has been helpful not only to students eating school lunches, but also to the farmers who produce the American-grown commodities that are purchased by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) for use in the USDA Foods Program. We fully expect the six cents for breakfast commodities, as proposed in the legislation, will provide similar benefits to both school children and growers/farmers/producers.

ACDA and SNA look forward to partnering with you as you move forward with this legislation. If we may serve as resources for you and your staffs, it is our pleasure to do so. Again, we thank you for your leadership and for sharing our commitment to ensuring our students have access to nutritious, appealing, affordable meals at school.

Sincerely,

Chris Facha, SNS
President
American Commodity Distribution Association

Lynn Harvey, RDN, LDN, FAND, SNS
President
School Nutrition Association