

September 23, 2010

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
H-232 U.S. Capitol  
Washington DC, 20515

The Honorable John Boehner  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
H-204 United States Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable George Miller  
Chairman  
Committee on Education and Labor  
2181 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Kline  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Education and Labor  
2101 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington DC, 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader Boehner, Chairman Miller and Ranking Member Kline:

On behalf of the nearly 24 million Americans with diabetes, and the additional 57 million Americans with pre-diabetes, I write in support of S. 3307 Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act and ask for its swift consideration on the House Floor.

As you know, the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act was passed by unanimous consent in the Senate last month and it includes many of the important provisions from the Improving Nutrition for America's Children Act. As childhood obesity continues to pose a public health crisis in our country, it is essential Congress reauthorize the Child Nutrition Act and improve the overall school health environment before the current authorization expires on September 30, 2010.

Specifically, this bipartisan legislation makes a strong investment in our school nutrition programs, including increasing the federal reimbursement for the school lunch program. This added funding will provide local school districts with resources to improve the quality and nutritional value of meals served to students. The legislation also requires the Department of Agriculture to strengthen nutrition standards for foods sold in vending machines, a la carte lines and school stores. For too long, students have been tempted at school with unhealthy choices, like sugary beverages and high-calorie snacks. This legislation will also provide assistance to schools to improve their Local Wellness Policies. Combined, these changes will lead to more healthy choices for students in and out of federal meal programs and healthier lifestyles overall for children.

If current trends continue, one in three children born in the year 2000 will develop diabetes at some point in their lifetimes. For minority populations, nearly one in two children will develop diabetes. This overwhelming statistic is due in large part to the childhood obesity epidemic. In order to curb both childhood obesity and the incidence of type 2 diabetes, we must take action to promote healthy lifestyles in our children. This action should start at school, where children spend a large portion of their day.

**National Office**

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**Diabetes Information**

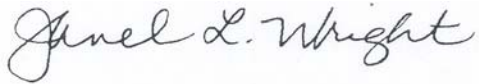
call 1-800-DIABETES (1-800-342-2383)  
online [www.diabetes.org](http://www.diabetes.org)  
The Association gratefully accepts gifts through your will.

**The Mission** of the American

Diabetes Association is to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes.

Again, the American Diabetes Association supports the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act and requests this important bill be considered by the House of Representatives as soon as possible. Should you have further questions, please contact Meghan Riley, Manager, Federal Government Affairs, at (703) 253-4818 or [mriley@diabetes.org](mailto:mriley@diabetes.org).

Sincerely,



Janel Wright  
Chair  
National Advocacy Committee

