

June 10, 2010

The Honorable George Miller
Chairman
House Education & Labor Committee

The Honorable John Kline
Ranking Member
House Education & Labor Committee

The Honorable Carolyn McCarthy
Chairwoman
House Education & Labor Committee,
Subcommittee on Healthy Families and
Communities

The Honorable Todd "Russell" Platts
Ranking Member
House Education & Labor Committee,
Subcommittee on Healthy Families and
Communities

Dear Chairmen and Ranking Members:

We would like to thank you for your hard work and perseverance on the introduction of legislation to reauthorize the Child Nutrition Act. We are very encouraged to see such a robust piece of legislation. The Improving Nutrition for America's Children Act will go a long way towards combating childhood obesity and ending childhood hunger, by improving the nutritional quality of school meals, and making significant improvements to program access.

We are pleased to see the inclusion of \$50 million in mandatory funding for Farm to School projects. Not only do Farm to School programs provide healthy food for our nation's children, but they also support farmers and local economies. In these challenging economic times, we appreciate that every dollar must be examined for its effectiveness. By investing in farm to school programs, you have provided an opportunity to feed school children more healthfully by enhancing existing nutrition programs, while at the same time cultivating new markets for farmers and stimulating rural economies.

We look forward to continuing to work with you, and the full Education and Labor Committee, in supporting the health and well being of America's children through Farm to School programs. We will do all that we can to help as the process moves forward.

Sincerely,

Community Food Security Coalition
National Farm to School Network
National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition
School Food Focus
Wallace Center at Winrock International

cc: Rep. Jim McGovern
Rep. Rosa DeLauro