



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

The Honorable Todd Russell Platts
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Healthy Families and
Communities
2181 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

July 12, 2010

Dear Representatives Miller and Platts:

On behalf of the National PTA and our more than five million parents, teachers, students, and other child advocates, we are writing to express our strong support for H.R. 5504, the Improving Nutrition for America's Children Act of 2010. This bill makes meaningful improvements to critical programs that increase access to vital anti-hunger measures, improve the nutrition quality of foods served in schools, and provide the supports necessary for school food service workers to meet the needs of American children.

This bipartisan legislation responsibly focuses limited resources to address the urgent needs of young Americans in a time when nearly one quarter of children are at risk of hunger and one third are either overweight or obese. H.R. 5504 includes common-sense measures to help ensure that both of these trends can be reversed, including supports for the direct certification process, updated nutrition standards for all foods served in schools, increased access to local produce and school gardens, and enhanced notification and engagement of parents and the surrounding community in matters that affect the well-being of students.

In light of these efforts, we support this bill as a significant step towards improving the health and wellness of our nation's students and offer ourselves as a resource as the bill moves through the legislative process. Thank you and your staff members for your efforts on behalf of youth across the country. For future reference, Health Policy Analyst James Vanderhook can be reached at jvanderhook@pta.org or 800-307-4782, ext. 211.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles J. Saylor".

Charles J. "Chuck" Saylor
National PTA President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Byron V. Garrett".

Byron V. Garrett
National CEO

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