

January 26, 2022

Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro

Chairwoman

House Committee on Appropriations

Honorable Patrick Leahy

Chairman

Senate Committee on Appropriations

Honorable Sanford Bishop, Jr.

Chairman

House Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies

Honorable Tammy Baldwin

Chairwoman

Senate Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural

Development, Food and Drug

Administration, and Related Agencies

Honorable Kay Granger

Ranking Member

House Committee on Appropriations

Honorable Richard Shelby

Vice Chairman

Senate Committee on Appropriations

Honorable Andy Harris

Ranking Member

House Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies

Honorable John Hoeven

Ranking Member

Senate Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural

Development, Food and Drug

Administration and Related Agencies

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro, Ranking Member Granger, Chairman Leahy, Vice Chairman Shelby, Chairman Bishop, Ranking Member Harris, Chairwoman Baldwin, Ranking Member Hoeven,

On behalf of General Mills, I write to express our support for Congressional action to further extend USDA's nationwide waiver authority through School Year 2022-2023. We are concerned that millions of children face hunger each year, and that number has significantly increased due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and related challenges.

For many of our nation's children, and especially for children at nutritional risk, the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) often provides the most nutritious meal(s) of the day. With childhood hunger on the rise in the U.S., General Mills commitment to food and nutrition security is more important than ever.

General Mills is a major packaged-food manufacturer engaged for over 150 years in the development and production of food products including ready-to-eat cereals, yogurts, vegetables, soups, snacks, flour, refrigerated dough, and numerous other products. Our company's purpose is simple but powerful: Making Food the World Loves. Embedded in this purpose is a deep respect and sense of service to our consumers and a commitment to understanding their needs and expectations.

Our mission is to ensure every child is well fed and ready to learn. We are committed to continuing to be an industry leader by offering tasty, nutritious, regulation-ready meal solutions. We recognize and agree that there is need for flexibility in this environment with Covid and related challenges. The nationwide waivers have enabled SFAs the flexibility to serve all kids regardless of income or where they are learning.



We thank you for your leadership and consideration for additional actions to extend USDA's nationwide waiver authority through School Year 2022-2023

Sincerely,

Lee Anderson

Vice President, Government Relations

General Mills