

December 2, 2022

The Honorable Adam Smith
Chairman
House Armed Services Committee
2264 Rayburn Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jack Reed
Chairman
Senate Armed Services Committee
728 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Rogers
Ranking Member
House Armed Services Committee
2469 Rayburn Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jim Inhofe
Ranking Member
Senate Armed Services Committee
205 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Smith, Ranking Member Rogers, Chairman Reed, and Ranking Member Inhofe:

As the House and Senate conferees negotiate the final FY 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), we strongly urge you to retain language reauthorizing the Global Food Security Act. The text of the House-passed provisions of the Global Food Security Reauthorization Act (H.R. 8446) is currently included in the Senate manager's amendment to NDAA, which we strongly support.

The Global Food Security Reauthorization Act would reauthorize the Feed the Future program for another five years and makes common sense updates to reflect the world we live in today compared to 2016 when the bill was originally signed into law. Feed the Future is the U.S. Government's global hunger and food security initiative and engages with target countries to enhance food security and nutrition in developing nations. A whole-of-government initiative led by the U.S. Agency for International Development and Department of State, Feed the Future is an important, successful program that works to strengthen global food security through improved agricultural productivity to spur agricultural-led growth.

The convergence of extreme weather and climate shocks, including severe drought, the disruption of food chains during COVID-19, and the war in the Ukraine, has devastated lives and exacerbated food crises around the globe.

The Global Food Security Act is the most effective way to reduce vulnerability to food shocks and stresses and address chronic poverty and hunger. It also supports national security, avoiding the need for more costly emergency and military interventions in the future.

The bill has strong bipartisan support, introduced by Rep. Betty McCollum (D-MN) and Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ), and passed the House at the end of September by an overwhelming bipartisan vote. It has strong support in the Senate from original cosponsors Senators Bob Casey (D-PA), Jim Risch (R-ID), Chris Coons (D-DE), and John Boozman (R-AR) who introduced a similar bill in the Senate. Senator Casey also introduced an amendment to the NDAA which includes the Global Food Security Reauthorization Act and had the support of both Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Senator Bob Menendez (D-NJ) and Ranking Member Risch.

This provision would fight hunger and malnutrition and strengthen agricultural production at a time when it is needed more than ever.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to matters of hunger, and we strongly encourage you to include this important provision in the final FY 2023 NDAA conference agreement.

Respectfully,

1,000 Days
Alliance to End Hunger
Bread for the World
Cantera Partners
Cargill
Christian Connections for International Health
Church World Service
Cultivating New Frontiers in Agriculture
Edesia
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Farm Journal Foundation
GrainPro Incorporated
Growing Hope Globally
Islamic Relief USA
One Acre Fund
Opportunity International
RESULTS
Save the Children