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Enactment Date	9-27-12



OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Community Schools, Thriving Students

Memo

To Board of Education
 From Tony Smith, Ph.D., Superintendent
 Vernon Hal, Deputy Superintendent, Business & Operations
 Jennifer Le Barre, Director of Nutrition Services

Board Meeting Date 9/27/12

Subject Request for Approval to Support National Alliance for Nutrition and Activity's Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Letter to Congress

Action Requested Approval by the Board of Education of Request for Oakland Unified School District's Support of National Alliance for Nutrition and Activity's Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Letter to Congress.

Background Oakland Unified School District receives funding from United States Department of Agriculture's Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP). Through FFVP Nutrition Services provides fresh fruit and vegetable snacks between meals to 23 schools resulting in over \$400,000 in fresh produce being made available to OUSD students.

Discussion Proposed language for the 2012 Farm Bill to eliminate the fresh requirement for this program. Research and stories are clear that the FFVP positively impacts children's eating habits and that the integrity of the FFVP should be maintained. It's important to note that this letter does not suggest that fresh fruits and vegetables are healthier than other forms of fruits and vegetables, but it does recognize that this program is playing an important role in exposing children to a wide variety of fresh fruits and vegetables, which increases children's overall fruit and vegetable intake to promote better health.

Recommendation Approval by the Board of Education of Request for Oakland Unified School District's Support of National Alliance for Nutrition and Activity's Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Letter to Congress.

Fiscal Impact None

Attachments

- Letter of Support to Congress

National Alliance for Nutrition and Activity

August 2012,

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Chairman
The Honorable Pat Roberts
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition and Forestry
328A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Frank Lucas
Chairman
The Honorable Collin Peterson
Ranking Member
House Committee on Agriculture
1301 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Stabenow and Lucas and Ranking Members Roberts and Peterson:
We the undersigned organizations write to express our strong support for protecting the funding and integrity of the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program as provided in the Senate's Farm Bill (S. 3240).

The Senate bill preserves the current funding for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program and also maintains the program as a 'fresh' fruit and vegetable program for low-income elementary school students. This funding will enable more than 3 million low-income elementary school students in more than 7,000 elementary schools nationwide to benefit from receiving a fresh fruit or vegetable snack every day at school.

The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program is an effective and valuable nutrition program that results in children being exposed to a wide variety of fresh fruits and vegetables and significantly increases their overall consumption, without increasing their average intake of calories. The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program is an important strategy to provide children with healthy school environments that work to improve children's eating habits, promote good health, and reduce their risk of overweight/obesity and other diet related health problems.

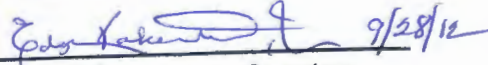
We urge the Farm Bill Conferees to protect both the funding and integrity of the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program as provided in the Senate's Farm Bill (S.3240).

Very respectfully,

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
American Heart Association
American Public Health Association
Bread for the World
Center for Science in the Public Interest
First Focus Campaign for Children
Fair Food Network
National WIC Association
Public Health Institute
School Food FOCUS National Office
Trust for America's Health

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By: lf

Certified:


Edgar Rakestraw, Jr., Secretary
Board of Education