

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
The Capitol S-128
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Susan Collins
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
The Capitol S-128
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
The Capitol H-307
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

December 16, 2024

Dear Chairs Murray and Cole and Ranking Members Collins and DeLauro,

We are writing to urge you to support funding for key nutrition programs in any disaster supplemental funding passed by Congress in response to Hurricanes Helene and Milton and other natural disasters. This funding is needed to meet the needs of individuals and food distributors, like food banks, in the wake of these life-altering events.

When natural disasters occur, many Americans who have never experienced hunger can find themselves in need of food assistance. And for those already struggling with food insecurity, their needs become even more acute. To that end, it is crucial to include adequate support for food and nutrition programs in the supplemental to provide support to individuals as well as food banks and other front-line organizations providing food distribution to those impacted by the disasters. We urge you to include:

- An additional \$245 million in supplemental funding for TEFAP foods to meet both the immediate and long-term needs in areas impacted by natural disasters. This funding will help ensure that local emergency feeding organizations can continue to provide food without disruption.
- \$30 million in supplemental funding for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) to support grants to WIC state agencies to assist in disaster response.
- \$25 million in supplemental funding for the Commodity Assistance Program to support funding for TEFAP partners impacted by the hurricanes, including support to strengthen infrastructure for food transportation, storage, and refrigeration.

Providing the funding outlined above will help ensure that families in impacted communities have their basic needs met and can build towards recovery. Thank you for considering these priorities as you work to pass a much-needed disaster supplemental bill.

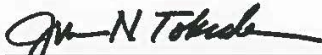
Sincerely,



Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress



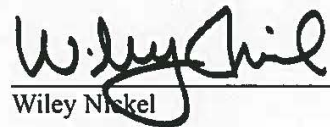
J. J. Tokuda
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress



Wiley Nickel
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



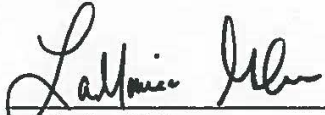
Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



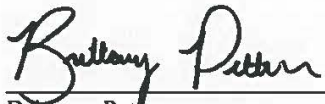
Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



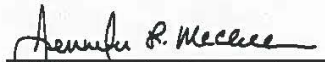
Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



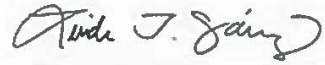
LaMonica McIver
Member of Congress



Brittany Petterson
Member of Congress



Jennifer L. McClellan
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress



Robert Garcia
Caucus Leadership
Representative