



September 12, 2013

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
United States Senate
709 Hart Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Murkowski:

We, the undersigned members of the National Alliance for Nutrition and Activity, thank you for your leadership in securing updated national school nutrition standards for foods sold through vending machines, school stores, a la carte, and other venues outside the school meal programs.

The Child Nutrition Promotion and School Lunch Protection Act laid the groundwork for improving the nutritional quality of competitive foods nationwide. Thanks to your leadership and the efforts of parents, health professionals, schools, and others, we are just a year away from removing unhealthy foods and beverages from schools across the country. The new national school nutrition standards for all foods sold in schools, combined with recent improvements to the school meal programs, will ensure that all school foods meet healthy nutrition standards.

As you know, child nutrition and obesity inextricably affect our nation's physical and fiscal health. With one out of every three children in America overweight or obese and most children consuming diets too high in saturated fat, sodium, and sugars, and too low in fruits, vegetables, and whole grains, improving school foods is a key step toward supporting healthful eating by children. Strong nutrition standards for school foods will improve children's diets, support health and nutrition education, reinforce parents' efforts to help their children eat healthfully, and help protect the federal investment in school meals.

We thank you and your staff for your support, hard work, and leadership.

Sincerely,

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
Action for Healthy Kids
Advocates for Better Children's Diets
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Academy of Sports Dietitians and Nutritionists
American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance
American College of Preventive Medicine
American Diabetes Association
American Heart Association
American Institute for Cancer Research
American Public Health Association
American School Health Association
American Society of Bariatric Physicians
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
Bridgeport Child Advocacy Coalition (CT)
California Association of Nutrition & Activity Programs (CAN-Act)
California Center for Public Health Advocacy
California Convergence Coordinating Office
California Food Policy Advocates
Center for Communications, Health & the Environment
Center for Science in the Public Interest
ChangeLab Solutions
Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition (WA)
Consumer Federation of America
Day One (CA)
Defeat Diabetes Foundation
Directors of Health Promotion and Education
Earth Day Network
FamilyCook Productions
Farm Sanctuary
First Focus Campaign for Children
Genesee Dietetic Association (NY)
HealthMPowers, Inc. (GA)
Healthy Schools Campaign
Institute for America's Health
Iowa Public Health Association
KC Healthy Kids
Latino Coalition for a Healthy California
Leadership for Healthy Communities
Maine Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics

Maine Public Health Association
Maternity Care Coalition
Michigan Association of School Nurses
National Action Against Obesity
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National Physicians Alliance
National PTA
National Research Center for Women & Families / Cancer Prevention and Treatment Fund
National Student Nurses Association
National WIC Association
Nemours
New Jersey Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition
Nutrition in the Schools (PA)
Ohio Public Health Association
Oregon Public Health Institute
Parent, Educators, and Advocates Connection for Healthy School Food (CA)
Partners for a Healthy Nevada
Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln (NE)
Partnership for Prevention
Prevent Cancer Foundation
Prevention Institute
Prevention Partners
Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada
Public Health Advocacy Institute
Public Health Institute
Real Food For Kids – Montgomery (MD)
Real Food For Kids (VA)
Recipe for Success Foundation
Shape Up America!
Strategic Alliance (CA)
SuperKids Nutrition
The Jones Center (AR)
The Pew Charitable Trusts
The Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior
Trust For America's Health
United Fresh Produce Association