



Dear Friends,

The following information is passed on to you to help you help us fight the problem of world hunger both here and abroad. It contains information for your immediate action and we urge you to join us in this vital mission which can be accomplished only with the help of people like yourselves. Please give this serious attention and act on this right away. "I was hungry and you fed me" is nearly a mandate from our Lord to help those in need.

+Bishop Ed R. Benoway, Florida-Bahamas Synod, ELCA,  
+Marypat Forgie, coordinator for world hunger response,  
+Pastor C. Thomas Snapp, chair, Global Mission Committee.

---

Join Florida Impact and other organizations around the nation for an Anti-Hunger Call-in Day on May 22nd. Help support the McGovern/Emerson "Feeding America's Families Act" (H.R. 2129) and build momentum for 2007 Farm Bill investments that strengthen the Food Stamp and emergency feeding programs.

#### **Time is of the Essence**

Congressional action on the 2007 Farm Bill is beginning in May, with at least one House Agriculture Subcommittee taking up its portion of the bill before the Memorial Day recess. Full House and Senate Agriculture Committee mark ups are slated for June. It is critically important to communicate with Members of Congress prior to the committee actions.

#### **Feeding America's Families Act Sets the Priorities**

A new bipartisan bill offered by Representatives James McGovern (D-MA) and Jo Ann Emerson (R-MO) offers an excellent vehicle for getting Congress to focus on improving the nutrition title in the Farm Bill. The "Feeding America's Families Act" (H.R. 2129) would make a significant difference for families facing a constant struggle against hunger by improving access to the Food Stamp Program, increasing the adequacy of food stamp benefits, and bolstering the emergency food assistance system. It would invest \$20 billion in new five-year spending for anti-hunger priorities.

#### **Action Needed**

##### **Step 1:**

Call (800) 965-4701 and ask the Capitol Switchboard operator to connect you to your Member of Congress' office. (If you don't know your Representative's or Senators' names go to <http://www.congressmerge.com/onlinedb/index.htm>) If you are having trouble getting through, try the Capitol Switchboard directly at (202) 225-3121 (not toll-free) and ask to be connected to your Members of Congress *The toll-free number is provided courtesy of the American Friends Service Committee. AFSC welcomes groups to circulate and use the toll-free number in support of non-partisan budget goals and without linking the alert to a Web site soliciting donations or actions which may be used to support partisan lobbying or work.*

##### **Step 2:**

Make three calls - one to your Representative and two to your Senators.

**MESSAGE:** Please make sure that the 2007 Farm Bill has a strong nutrition title that strengthens the Food Stamp Program and the emergency food system. There are 35 million people in the U.S. living in households that face a constant struggle against hunger. Food stamp benefits average only \$1 a person a meal and the minimum benefit has been stuck at \$10 a month for decades. Food Stamps should be available to more needy people and should be made adequate for attaining a healthy diet. H.R. 2129 would address those priorities.

**HOUSE ASK:** Urge Members to communicate to Agriculture Committee Chairman Collin Peterson (D-MN) their support for improving the nation's nutrition safety net in the 2007 Farm Bill by strengthening the Food Stamp and emergency feeding programs and ask them to cosponsor and/or otherwise support the McGovern/Emerson "Feeding America's Families Act" (H.R. 2129). A strong nutrition title of the 2007 Farm Bill is a must.

**SENATE ASK:** Urge Senators to communicate their support to Agriculture Committee Chairman Tom Harkin (D-IA) for improving the nation's safety net in the 2007 Farm Bill by strengthening the Food Stamp and emergency feeding programs. A strong nutrition title of the 2007 Farm Bill is a must.

**Step 3: Help Spread the Word!** Send this Call-in Day information to members & allies.

### **Assistance and Feedback**

For background on the 2007 Farm Bill, links to testimony, and other information, go to <http://www.frac.org/Legislative/farmBill2007/06.23.05.html> For technical assistance or to provide feedback to FRAC, contact [evollinger@frac.org](mailto:evollinger@frac.org) or [eteller@frac.org](mailto:eteller@frac.org) This alert is also available in a printer-friendly format ([pdf](#) and [Word](#) document).

Fair Legislation for World Hunger