



RFFK Special Edition . June 2014

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Don't Let Congress Undo the Good of School Lunch Standards

Voice Your Concerns Now!

On Tuesday, First Lady Michele Obama joined the fight against congressional Republicans who are proposing an Appropriations Bill that would significantly weaken federal child nutrition programs, including the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. You can read more in this [Washington Post article](#). **The House of Representatives will hold a key committee vote on a bill this Thursday (May 29th)**

With the significant progress being made across the country, in our schools, to improve the quality of food served to our students, *and* the noticeable improvements in children's health as a result,
WE CANNOT LET THIS LEGISLATION PASS!

Real Food For Kids needs your help.

Tell members of Congress not to weaken the National School Lunch Program. Help ensure that all students have access to healthy foods at school.

Ninety percent of schools now meet the updated nutrition standards for school lunch, helping millions of students get more fruits, vegetables, and whole grains and reducing the amount of sodium in meals. And the USDA is actively helping

those school districts that need assistance to ensure healthier foods are on school lunch trays nationwide.

But the same leaders who declared "pizza is a vegetable" want to gut this progress through the appropriations process by rolling back standards on salt, whole grains, fruits/vegetables, and snacks.

How can you help?

ONE

Sign on to the Change.org petition [here](#).

TWO

Write your Virginia Senators and Congressman at the links below. You may use the sample language in the [attached letter](#). If you are from outside the Fairfax County area, you may look up your elected officials at www.house.gov and www.senate.gov

[Senator Tim Kaine](#)

[Senator Mark Warner](#)

[Congressman Jim Moran](#)

[Congressman Gerry Connolly](#)

THREE

You can also tweet your elected officials:

**Dear (@Elected Official), look how great school lunch can be: website. Don't weaken school nutrition standards.
#SaveSchoolLunch**

[@timkaine](#)

[@markwarner](#)

[@Jim_Moran](#)

[@gerryconnolly](#)

FOUR

Use these sample posts on your Facebook page:

First Congress legislated that pizza is a vegetable in the school lunch program. Now they want to take vegetables out of school lunch - and gut the standards for salt, whole grains and snacks. Tell Congress to stop playing politics with our children's health!

<http://chn.ge/1I17k1X>

Join me in telling Congress: don't play politics with children's health and weaken school lunch nutrition standards. Then spread the word.

<http://chn.ge/1I17k1X>

However you choose to communicate with our decision-makers, and spread the word please do so. Your voices have been instrumental in moving school food

reform forward in Fairfax County.

Now we need you to help us make sure all the good work being done across the country isn't undone through an appropriations bill.

Make your voices heard!

As the local face of the national wellness movement, Real Food for Kids is committed to working in collaborative ways to increase the quantities of healthy foods in Fairfax County Public Schools and supporting programs that educate our students and their families on making healthier lifestyle choices.

www.realfoodforkids.org

