



August 9, 2010

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Senate Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
SH-522  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
SR-361A  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
United States House of Representatives  
235 CHOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer  
House Majority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
LHOB 1705  
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable John A. Boehner  
House Minority Leader  
United State House of Representatives  
1011 LHOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressional Leaders:

I write concerning Senate passage of the child nutrition reauthorization bill (S. 3307) on August 5 and the House's plan to take up the bill next. APHSA's members support a strong and effective child nutrition reauthorization measure, but we are very concerned that the bill would be funded in large part by termination in 2013 of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefit increase enacted in last year's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. SNAP is a vital safety net and nutrition support program, and the ARRA SNAP increases have helped keep food on the table for millions during this severe recession and have helped assure that these families are better equipped to maintain their children's health and to fight such problems childhood obesity.

However, this badly needed ARRA increase has already been substantially reduced by the Senate measure (also passed August 5) that extended state funding for teacher's jobs and state FMAP Medicaid needs. This was a necessary move to assure passage of the FMAP extension, a major priority for the states, but we are strongly opposed to any additional SNAP cuts. All nutrition programs should be adequately funded, but it is unacceptable to make further reductions in SNAP, the nation's premiere mechanism to provide nutrition assistance.

We appreciate your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Larry Goolsby, Director of Legislative Affairs, at (202) 682-0100 ext. 239 or [lgoolsby@aphsa.org](mailto:lgoolsby@aphsa.org) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Cari DeSantis  
Interim Executive Director