



Action Alert June 1, 2007: **Support the Food Stamp Benefit in the Farm Bill!**

Dear Friends & Colleagues:

We urge you to contact your Senators and Representative asking them to support a great investment in the **Food Stamp program of the 2007 Farm Bill**. Full House and Senate Agriculture Committee mark ups are slated for June 12th. It is critically important to communicate with Members of Congress prior to the Committee actions.

Action: By Friday, June 8th, email or call your United States Senators and Representatives to improve the nutrition of Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, and Native Hawaiians who are legal immigrants or U.S. citizens.

1. By Friday, June 8th Call your Senators and ask them to sign onto Senator Durbin's letter, which asks the Senate Agriculture Committee to strengthen the Food Stamp Program. As of June 1, 2007 Senators Durbin, Obama, and Sanders are the only 3 Senators to support this letter. It is critically important that the 2007 Farm Bill contain a strong nutrition title that provides significant investment in the Food Stamp Program. Call your Senators before Friday, June 8th and urge them to sign onto this letter (Senator contact information at <http://www.senate.gov/>)

2. By Friday, June 8th Contact your Representative to support HR 2129

Click here to contact your Representative:

<http://www.frac.org/Legislative/farmBill2007/alerts/05.21.07.html>

The House bill, HR 2129 "Feeding America's Families Act" sponsored by Representatives James McGovern (D-MA) and JoAnn Emerson (R-MO) focuses on improving the nutrition programs under the broader Farm Bill. It is the most comprehensive bill introduced this Congress.

APIAHF supports HR 2129 for including:

- All lawfully residing immigrants will have access to food stamp benefits (approx 250,000-300,000 legal immigrants).
- Increases to the food stamp benefit.
- Extending the minimum benefit per month that families receive.
- Ensuring that food stamp benefit levels adjust to rising food prices.
- Streamlining eligibility determination and enrollment.
- Helping many families through the application process.
- For those who cannot access food stamps, it improves the resources for the emergency food bank network.