



NATIONAL CONFERENCE of STATE LEGISLATURES

*The Forum for America's Ideas*

**Deb Peters**  
*Senator – District 9  
South Dakota  
President, NCSL*

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*Fiscal Analyst  
Office of Budget Review  
Legislative Research Commission  
Kentucky  
Staff Chair, NCSL*

**William T. Pound**  
*Executive Director*

July 9, 2018

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Majority Leader  
317 Russell Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Senate Democratic Leader  
322 Hart Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Speaker of the House  
H-232 The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Democratic Leader  
H-204, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senator McConnell, Senator Schumer, Speaker Ryan and Leader Pelosi,

On behalf of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), we support the Senate and House efforts to reauthorize federal nutrition programs in H.R. 2-the Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018 (the Farm Bill), before the programs expire this September.

We understand that the House and Senate bills differ in their language regarding the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) program and requirements for participants, but we are hopeful a bi-partisan effort by both chambers will find the needed compromise to pass a multi-year authorization of the Farm Bill. NCSL supports a robust SNAP program that continues to improve the health and nutrition of millions of families in the United States. Our policy opposes any federal proposals that impose costly burdens or mandates on states that would remove state flexibility in the administration of SNAP.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. If you have any questions or need additional information please contact Haley Nicholson at 202-624-8662 or [haley.nicholson@ncsl.org](mailto:haley.nicholson@ncsl.org)

Sincerely,

Joni Jenkins, State Representative  
Kentucky Legislature  
Co-Chair, NCSL Health and Human Services  
Committee

David E. Heaton, State Representative  
Iowa Legislature  
Co-Chair, NCSL Health and Human Services  
Committee

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Renee Unterman  
State Senator, Georgia  
Co-Chair, NCSL Hunger Partnership



Eddie Lucio  
State Senator, Texas  
Co-Chair, NCSL Hunger Partnership