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Senator Inhofe
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Senator King
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

July 30, 2015

Dear Senators Inhofe and King,

On behalf of AASA, The School Superintendents Association, representing more than 10,000 school system leaders across the country, I write to express our strong support for the School Lunch Price Protection Act (S1805). This act allows schools and districts with financially solvent nutrition programs to set lunch prices, using knowledge of costs as well as the population served.

As the national organization representing the nation's public school superintendents, we are keenly aware of the important role that sound nutrition makes in supporting student learning and achievement. We support school nutrition and the national school lunch program: a healthy, well-nourished student is best prepared to learn. Our members also understand that school nutrition programs are small businesses that serve the whole school community, and should be given the autonomy necessary to run their programs as necessary.

The School Lunch Price Protection Act would allow programs already running with a positive fund balance to set their own prices. This would allow financially solvent programs to listen to the needs of their communities and price their meals at a level which would maximize participation in the program while maintaining strong financial standing and nutritional quality, while ensuring programs that do not operate with a balanced budget do not neglect their need for financial stability.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue, and we look forward to working with you on this issue and a broader reauthorization effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leslie Finnan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Leslie Finnan
Policy Analyst
AASA, The School Superintendents Association