



UNITED STATES SENATE COMMITTEE ON
**AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,
& FORESTRY**

U.S. SENATOR DEBBIE STABENOW,
CHAIRWOMAN

U.S. SENATOR JOHN BOOZMAN,
RANKING MEMBER

The Keep Kids Fed Act

At the onset of the pandemic, Congress provided USDA the authority to issue much needed flexibilities so that schools and meal program operators could continue to feed children. While the worst of the pandemic is behind us and many aspects of life have returned to normal, the challenges resulting from the pandemic remain, particularly increased rates of food insecurity and supply chain breakdowns.

To help schools and other meal providers weather these challenges, Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow and Ranking Member John Boozman's bill, the Keep Kids Fed Act, extends some of these flexibilities for an additional year and provides increased support to address food cost spikes schools and other providers are experiencing. The companion effort in the House is led by Committee on Education and Labor Chairman Bobby Scott and Ranking Member Virginia Foxx. The legislation is fully paid for.

The Keep Kids Fed Act will:

- Extend flexibilities for summer meals in 2022. This will make it easier to feed all students during the summer months, particularly those in rural areas, through flexible options like meal delivery and grab-and-go.
- Extend school meal program administrative and paperwork flexibilities through the 2022-2023 school year. This will help schools streamline their meal operations and continue operating despite supply chain disruptions.
- Increase the reimbursement rate for school lunch and school breakfast to help offset the increased cost of food and operating expenses for schools. Schools will receive an additional 40 cents more for each lunch and 15 cents more for each breakfast served.
- Help daycares and home providers in the Child and Adult Care Food Program offset increased costs by providing an additional 10 cents per meal and streamlining reimbursement rates.