



June 30, 2010

The Honorable George Miller  
United States House of Representatives  
2181 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Todd Platts  
United States House of Representatives  
2455 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Carolyn McCarthy  
United States House of Representatives  
2346 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives:

On behalf of the nearly 24 million Americans with diabetes, and the additional 57 million Americans with pre-diabetes, I thank you for your work on the Improving Nutrition for America's Children Act. The American Diabetes Association appreciates the work the Education and Labor Committee has done on this legislation so far, and urges its prompt consideration in Committee and on the House Floor. As childhood obesity continues to pose a public health crisis in our country, it is essential Congress reauthorize the Child Nutrition Act quickly to improve the overall school health environment.

Specifically, the Association supports the strong investment this bipartisan legislation makes in our school nutrition programs, including increasing the federal reimbursement for the school lunch program. This added funding will provide local school districts with the resources to improve the quality and nutritional value of the meals they serve to students. We are also grateful the legislation requires strengthened nutrition standards for foods sold in vending machines, a la carte lines and school stores. For too long, students have been tempted at school with unhealthy choices, like sugary beverages and high-calorie snacks. These foods are allowed on campus because nutrition standards are woefully out of date and not consistent with current nutrition science. Combined, these and other reforms in the Improving Nutrition for America's Children Act will lead to more healthy choices for students in and out of federal meal programs.

If current trends continue, one in three children born in the year 2000 will develop diabetes at some point in their lifetimes. This overwhelming statistic is due in large part to the childhood obesity epidemic. In order to curb both childhood obesity and the incidence of type 2 diabetes, we must take action to promote healthy lifestyles in our children. This action should start at school, where children spend a large portion of their day.

Again, thank you for your continued work to reauthorize federal child nutrition programs. Should you have further questions, please contact Meghan Riley, Manager, Federal Government Affairs, at (703) 253-4818 or [mriley@diabetes.org](mailto:mriley@diabetes.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janel L. Wright".

Janel Wright  
Chair

National Advocacy Committee  
National Office  
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Tel: 703-549-1500

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call 1-800-DIABETES (1-800-342-2383)  
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**The Mission** of the American  
Diabetes Association is to prevent and  
cure diabetes and to improve the lives  
of all people affected by diabetes.

