

Sample Letter to Senators, COVID-19 Global Pandemic

Senator Dianne Feinstein, 331 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C 20510
Senator Kamala Harris, 112 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510
Representative Jared Huffman, 1527 Longworth House Office Bldg, Washington, D.C. 20515

[Date]

Sen. or Rep. _____
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator or Representative _____,

As we all work together to respond to the Covid-19 global pandemic, it is more important than ever that we make strong investments in nutrition programs for the most vulnerable in the U.S. and abroad. Malnutrition makes children and other vulnerable populations more susceptible to disease and infection.

Federal Nutrition programs help U.S. families lead healthy lives. Congress should expand the summer EBT program so more children can access nutritious food during the summer months – the hungriest time of the year for children. Specifically, I urge you to cosponsor S1918 “the Hunger Free Summer for Kids Act” which would expand this program nationwide.

I also urge you to support legislation that strengthens U.S. leadership on global nutrition and increases funding for global nutrition programs. Too many children globally are malnourished and suffer from stunting, which affects physical, cognitive and immune system development.

Now more than ever, my faith calls me to stand alongside vulnerable people in my community and around the world. Our government should provide leadership toward a well-nourished and more resilient world.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
[Your Address]
[City, State ZIP]

Quick Tips for an Effective Letter

Remember to personalize your letters.

- Make it personal. Share your experience and what motivated you to write
- Make your request clear – “I urge you to cosponsor S. 1918”
- Be sure to include your address

Some relevant talking points to personalize:

- Reducing malnutrition, especially for children, has become even more urgent as we struggle against COVID-19; malnutrition makes children and vulnerable populations more susceptible to disease, including COVID-19.
- For the 37 million people living in households that struggle with hunger in the United States, COVID-19 presents unique challenges. It is clear that private individuals and organizations cannot mobilize the resources the U.S. government can to support those at risk of hunger during this crisis. In fact, federal nutrition programs provide roughly 10 times as much food assistance as private churches and charities
- I wish to thank Congress for its bipartisan passage of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, and your continued efforts to respond to this pandemic.
- I remain concerned about the impact of COVID-19 on all Americans, especially the most vulnerable who are likely to be hit hardest. I am also concerned about the impact of the pandemic on people living in developing countries. I urge you to consider their needs in future legislation.
- It is critical that Congress expand support to those who are most affected by the health and economic effects of the virus and ensure that all families receive the support they need – including access to good nutrition.
- The importance of good nutrition in maintaining community health cannot be overstated.
- Funding and flexibility to administer federal nutrition programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), school meals, and emergency food assistance at the state level is essential.
- COVID-19 directly connects all people together and neglecting those who struggle with hunger threatens us all.