

Resolution on Healthy, Hungry-Free Kids Act

WHEREAS the 2010 Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act provides 21st century guidelines for meals provided by schools; and

WHEREAS the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act seeks to increase the availability of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and fat-free and low-fat fluid milk in school menus; reduce the level of sodium, saturated fat and trans fat in school meals; and meet the nutrition needs of school children within their calorie requirements according to the Federal Register; and

WHEREAS 19 former School Nutrition Association Presidents have praised the reforms of the 2010 act and urge that they remain unchanged; and

WHEREAS the School Nutrition Association, funded in part by food industry members, seeks to roll back the proposed standards; and

WHEREAS a recent study by San Francisco food activist Dana Woldow has found that fewer schools are operating at a loss than did before the act went into effect and that schools using the new standards find that kids are taking more fruit and throwing away less food; and

WHEREAS many school districts in the counties served by the La Crosse Area Synod utilize Farm to School programs; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the La Crosse Area Synod support the continued implementation of the **Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act** and urge¹ that the standards remain unchanged by communicating with:

The Agricultural Appropriations Committee (2362-A Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C.) and also their Wisconsin or Minnesota congressional representatives (Ron Kind or Timothy Walz, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515); and be it further

RESOLVED that congregations and members of the La Crosse Area Synod make similar contacts.

¹Letters could include information from some of the "whereas" paragraphs above as you indicate your concern over proposed changes in the Healthy, Hunger-free Kids Act of 2010.

SUGGESTIONS FROM WORLD HUNGER SUBCOMMITTEE

Your World Hunger Subcommittee also recommends you and/or your congregation support childhood nutrition more locally by any or all of the following activities:

1. **Contact a school board member, or attend a meeting** to inquire about and support the use of meals with improved nutrition.
2. **Celebrate School employees responsible for food services and choices** (district food service directors, school building managers and nutrition planners, cooks and cafeteria workers). Include them at the time of back pack blessings in the fall, at hunger offerings and in your prayers on Sundays.
3. **Support Farm to School programs.** Search "Wisconsin Farm to School" to find out more about these programs in your district or region.
4. **Look for summer food programs** for children where you live. Are there school or club sponsored breakfast and/or lunch programs? Does anyone have a bag lunch handout? What happens when meal programs close (usually when summer school classes end)? Call your district to ask.
5. **Support or create gardens that can supply fresh food to families or that include children in planting, care and harvesting.**
6. **Use God's Work, Our Hands** Sunday on September 13th to lift up and support program needs for childhood nutrition.