



**breadfortheworld**  
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

March 10, 2021

The Honorable Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.  
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Vilsack,

Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's leaders to end hunger at home and abroad. Our network of 250,000 activists is representative of every Congressional district, including local congregations, individual activists, and strong partnerships with national denominations and other faith-based and anti-hunger organizations throughout the United States.

Thank you for your leadership in ensuring access to healthy and nutritious meals are extended through September 2021. As you know, the Summer Food Service Program, helps over 12 million youth and reduce many of the hardships that families are facing during this pandemic. U.S. Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey reports that between 7 and 11 million children live in a household where children did not eat enough because the household could not afford it.

Because of the Biden-Harris Administration commitment to child nutrition and your leadership, USDA continues to improve access to healthy meals for students, we highly recommend the extension of universal school meals through next school year. We whole heartedly believe every student deserves access to healthy food every day regardless of their family's financial circumstances.

Again, we thank you for your timely leadership in recognizing the impact this decision would have on families struggling during the pandemic. Bread looks forward to the upcoming work with USDA around the Child Nutrition Reauthorization and the upcoming Farm Bill reauthorization.

Bread joins you in prayer for those who are hungry, those who are sick, those doing essential work, and those on the frontlines caring for our sick neighbors and family members.

Sincerely,

Rev. Eugene Cho

425 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, S.W., Suite 1200, Washington, D.C. 20024

202.639.9400 Fax 202.639.9401 Toll Free 800.822.7323 [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org)