

I am writing in full support of S.100, the Farm Fresh School Meals bill.

As a retired teacher with 35 years of teaching experience, I know firsthand the value of well-fed students. For most of my career, I have worked in lower-income communities, where many families did not have the resources (including time or money) to feed their children nutritious meals. As a result, my students had trouble concentrating, or would act out.

I taught special education, focusing primarily on students with visual impairments. The communities where I taught understood the importance of ensuring all children - regardless of their physical challenges - should have access to the education and support they needed to succeed to the best of their abilities. Being able to eat a healthy breakfast and lunch is part of that equation, and I encourage the Senate Education Committee to pass the full Farm Fresh School Meals bill.

Sincerely,

Thomas Banning