



**NATIONAL
FARMERS
UNION**

March 21, 2007

The Honorable Dick Durbin
United States Senate
309 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Elizabeth Dole
United States Senate
555 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jo Ann Emerson
United States House of Representatives
2440 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable James P. McGovern
United States House of Representatives
438 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Emerson and McGovern:

On behalf of the National Farmers Union (NFU), I write to express support for your legislation to reauthorize the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program. This valuable program has not only proven to be effective in reducing malnutrition and increasing school enrollment for underprivileged children, but also supports the development of strong communities and economies across the globe. NFU has long supported nutrition programs which provide for children in the United States and around the world.

Reauthorizing the McGovern-Dole Program will extend aid to millions of needy children and assist in the continuation of building bridges across the international community. Proper nutrition is vital to a child's health and development, while at the same time strengthening the health of societies; ensuring consistent nutrition and education for children across the world is the most positive approach to a strong future for everyone.

The United States' food-aid support in developing nations provides children with the nutrition they need to become the leaders of tomorrow. NFU is a fervent supporter of programs that work to alleviate hunger and suffering and it is through cooperative efforts like the McGovern-Dole Program that we can make a lasting difference in the world.

I look forward to working with you and your colleagues to ensure swift action on this vital legislation to continue providing children with the food and education necessary to nourish their bodies and minds.

Sincerely,

Tom Buis, President
National Farmers Union