

# ACDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

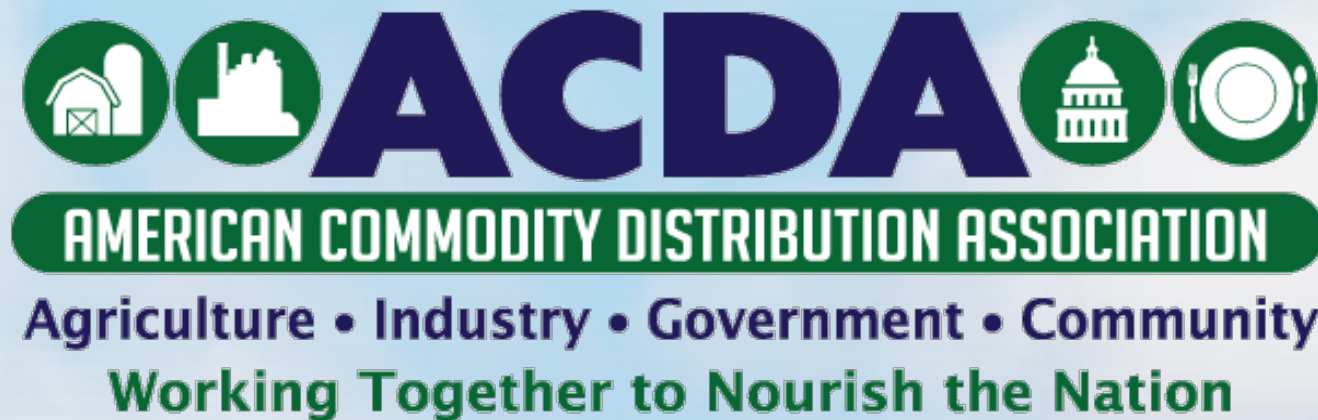
**Coming Together to Nourish the Nation**



**April 21 - 24, 2024  
Marriott St. Louis Grand  
St. Louis, Missouri**



# ACDA Legislative Update by Roger Szemraj





# Conference Planning Committee



Chris Baker



Mike Birkmeyer



Nanci Byrne



Deborah  
Cameron



Monica Deines-  
Henderson



Stephanie  
Ewing



Shannon  
Fitzgerald



Patrick  
Garmong



Angelice Lowe



Andrew  
Marshall



Sarah McIntire



Dawnetta  
Miller



Jose Quinones



Susan Renke



Christina Riley



Alethia Scheet



Bethany Showell



Dawn Stone



Lucinda Ward



Lena Wilson

# Thank You!



Christina Riley  
USDA



# TEFAP & CSEFP Committee

Co-Chair



Gabrielle Viens

Co-Chair



Corey Malone-Smolla



Judy Bateh



Letty Fraley



Sarah Kuhns



Julia Lemp



Gustav Nelson



Evan Poole



Elise Soto



Britni Stupin

# Please Welcome Our Speaker



**Roger Szemraj**  
ACDA Legislative Liaison



# **Legislative Update**

## ***Legislation, Regulations, & Congress Itself***

**Roger Szemraj, OFW Law**  
**April 22, 2024**

# In This Session of Congress

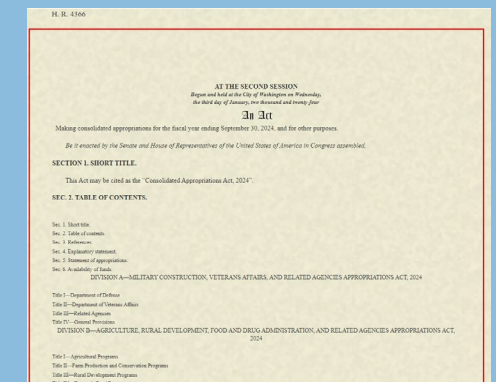
**Hurry Up and Wait...**  
**...But be Prepared to Move**  
**Yesterday!**





# Appropriations FY 2024

- House Defeats the Agriculture Appropriations Bill
- Four Continuing Resolutions
- Completed March 8



# Appropriations FY 2024

## TEFAP

» TEFAP Commodities - \$463,750,000

» TEFAP operating expenses - \$80,000,000

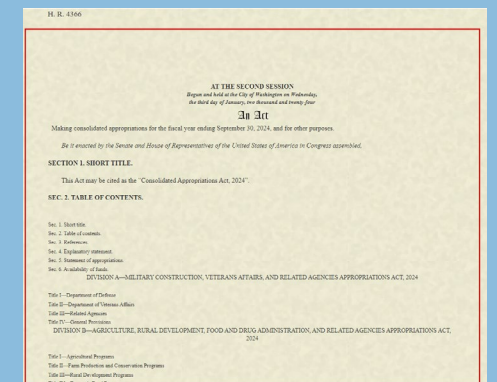
» CCC Authority not restricted



# Appropriations FY 2024

## CSFP

### » \$389,000,000



# Appropriations FY 2024

## Sodium Limits

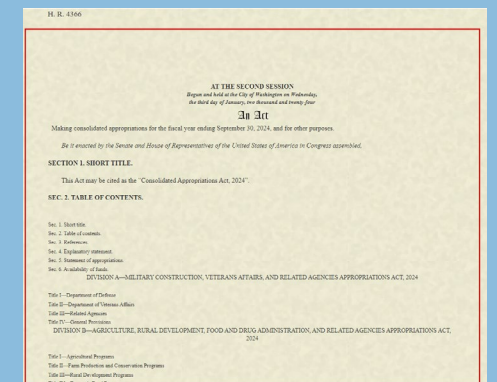
**SEC. 770. Sodium limits in effect for School Year 2023–2024 in child nutrition meal patterns shall remain effective through School Year 2026–2027, after which sodium limits that may be included in any rulemaking, notice or guidance of or regarding USDA Proposed Rule (Child Nutrition Programs: Revisions to Meal Patterns Consistent With the 2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans; RIN 0584–AE88), shall not be more restrictive than the Target 2 sodium levels published in the final rule entitled “Nutrition Standards in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs” published by the Department of Agriculture in the Federal Register on January 26, 2012 (77 Fed. Reg 4087).**



# Appropriations FY 2024

## Flavored Milk –

**SEC. 769. Any rule-making, notice or guidance of or regarding USDA Proposed Rule (Child Nutrition Programs: Revisions to Meal Patterns Consistent With the 2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans; RIN 0584–AE88) shall allow and provide meal reimbursement for (or “low fat or fat free”) flavored milk in National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program for grades Kindergarten through 12th grade and in Child and Adult Care Food Program for participants 6 years of age and older, and for any other program complying with the meal pattern requirements covered in such final rule.**



# Appropriations Request FY 2025

- **Community Eligibility** - The Budget includes a legislative proposal to increase the CEP multiplier from 1.6 to 2.5 and reduces the eligibility threshold from “40 percent or lower” of students identified as automatically eligible for a free meal from direct certification through other programs to “25 percent or lower.” It would advance a pathway to free school meals for an additional 9 million school children through increased take up of the Community Eligibility Provision among schools and States.



# Appropriations Request FY 2025

- **CSFP - \$425 million for FY 25 (\$389 million enacted for FY 24)**
- **TEFAP operating expenses - \$95 million for FY 25 (\$80 million enacted for FY 24)**
- **Reach and Resiliency Grants - The Budget includes a legislative proposal for permanent mandatory funding to support TEFAP infrastructure, particularly in rural, remote, and Tribal areas and U.S. Territories.**

# Appropriations Challenges FY 2025

- **Spending Allocations**
- **Policy Riders**
- **Election Outlook**



# Farm Bill

- **House Agriculture Committee Chairman Thompson: “Before Memorial Day, the House Committee on Agriculture will consider a farm bill that responds to a variety of crisis points, constituent priorities, needs of rural communities, and the demands of the current economy, both domestically and abroad.”**
- **Senate Agriculture Committee Chairwoman Stabenow: she'd rather continue punting on the farm bill than strike a deal with Republicans to limit climate funding and social safety net programs.**





# Farm Bill

## ACDA Issues:

- Provide robust resources for USDA Foods through The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) to meet the growing need for emergency hunger relief to be distributed through food banks, food pantries and soup kitchens.
- Support older adults who are at nutritional risk through the Commodity Supplemental Program (CSFP).



# Farm Bill

## Chairman Thompson:

- SNAP and the Thrifty Food Plan - The 2024 Farm Bill will reassert Congressional intent by prescribing a cost-neutral process while taking into consideration food prices and composition, consumption patterns, and dietary guidance. SNAP benefits will continue to be annually updated to reflect inflation.

## Committee Staff:

- There is a lot of opportunity in this bill to promote commodity distribution, both via new programs and increased funding.



# Farm Bill

- **Republican Study Group –**
  - convert SNAP into a discretionary block grant to the states based on rates of unemployment, poverty, and the length of time beneficiaries receive aid;
  - States to administer their own programs subject to several requirements to ensure program effectiveness and viability;
  - An enhanced state cost share would be integrated;
  - Rescind the “Thrifty Food Plan” (TFP) expansion enacted by the Biden Administration and support mandating that future TFP updates remain cost neutral.





# Child Nutrition Reauthorization

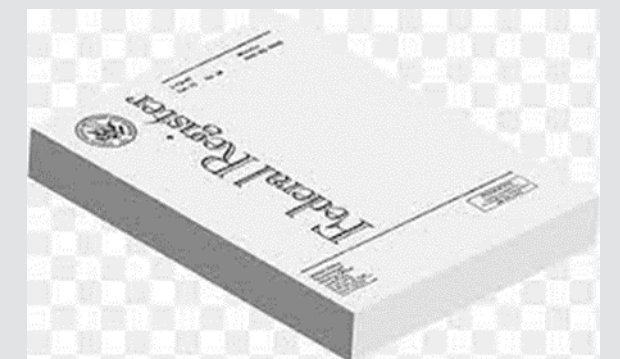
Stalled as Farm Bill has been delayed



# School Meal Standards Rule

**Child Nutrition Programs: Revisions to Meal Patterns Consistent With the 2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans Cleared OMB April 10;**

- **Details not yet released, but expected by the end of the month;**
- **Review and digest the rule in its totality;**
- **Interest in striking the right balance between standards and what is doable;**
- **Volatility in standards has not been good;**
- **Industry partners need to move forward;**
- **USDA Foods – The plan is to align with the standards, with only minor changes expected.**



# Food Distribution Programs: Improving Access and Parity

## Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP):

- *Eligibility*
- *Categorical Eligibility*
- *Caseload Preservation*
- *CSFP Funding Needs*
- *List of all eligible recipient agencies*

## The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP):

- *Eligibility*
- *TEFAP Funding Needs*
- *Elimination of State Matching Requirements*
- *Address Requirements*
- *List of all eligible recipient agencies*
- *Number of individuals*
- *Confidentiality Requirements*
- *Remote, Rural, and Tribal Encouragement*



# Election 2024

**The President  
New Administration?  
New President?**



# Election 2024

## The House of Representatives

- Currently 217 Republicans, 213 Democrats, 5 Vacancies
- Retiring or seeking other office: 21 Republicans, 25 Democrats
- Majority could change
- Many Committee changes



# Election 2024

## The Senate

- Currently 48 Democrats, 3 Independents, 49 Republicans
- Retiring- 6 Democrats, 3 Republicans
- Majority could change
- New Chair of the Senate Agriculture Committee





# Other Matters

- **White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health**



- **Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2025**



# QUESTIONS?

# Legislative Update

## Thank You!



For more information contact  
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# Questions?



**AMERICAN COMMODITY DISTRIBUTION ASSOCIATION**

**Agriculture • Industry • Government • Community**  
**Working Together to Nourish the Nation**



A cowboy hat, a lasso, and a cowboy boot are arranged on a wooden surface. The hat is on the left, the lasso is in the center, and the boot is on the right. The text is overlaid on the wooden background.

# ACDA Welcome Reception

6:00 - 8:00 PM  
Crystal Ballroom  
20th Floor



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