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COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY
FINANCE
RULES

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1601

August 14, 1990

Ms. Jane Flynn
7737 Howe Drive
Prairie Village, Kansas 66208

Dear Ms. Flynn:

Thank you for letting me know of your support for child nutrition programs. I appreciated hearing from you.

As you know, as a member of the Senate Agriculture Subcommittee on Nutrition, I was involved in establishing the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) back in the early 1970's, and I have been a strong advocate of the program ever since. Because it is known to be both cost-effective and well-targeted to an especially vulnerable segment of the population, WIC has enjoyed more congressional support than almost any other federal assistance program. Thanks to this support, WIC's funding and participation levels have continued to increase. In 1980, for example, WIC was funded at \$736 million and served about 1.9 million women, infants, and children. For fiscal year 1990, the agriculture appropriations bills included \$2.16 billion for WIC, an increase of \$230 million over the 1989 amount. I believe this was a reasonable increase for a very worthwhile program.

Finally, as you may know, many states are experiencing WIC funding shortages. Federal funding for the program has not been cut -- in fact, Congress increased spending on WIC by 10% last year. Among the main reasons some states are in a funding crunch are higher than expected price increases for dairy products and juices and lower infant formula rebates. Congress recently passed -- and the President signed -- legislation I cosponsored to allow affected States to use up to three percent of their fiscal year 1991 WIC supplemental food allocation in the current year to meet program costs. This additional borrowing authority should ease the States WIC funding crisis and allow states to maintain their WIC caseload.

Thanks again for writing.

Sincerely,

BOB DOLE
United States Senate

BD/dw



HARVESTERS

The Community Food Network

Log off
Steve spoke to on
8/3/90
006930

July 18, 1990

Dear Senator:

I am a person who cares deeply about the problem of hunger in our country. I work with an agency that brings me in daily contact with the immense need for helping our fellow citizens in need: children, veterans, persons working full-time but still unable to feed their families from time to time.

While many of us are working very hard to help by using the generosity of our community, we are very aware of the need to ask our government to play a major role in this problem.

I am, therefore, writing you to ask that you approve the legislation to support WIC 1991. Not only do I ask that you support the bill requesting \$150 million above inflation for 1991, but I am also asking that you add supplemental funds this year to prevent cutting 50,000 deserving mothers and their infants from this program.

I also request your support for the Harvest of Peace resolution which would redirect money from the arms race to fight the war against hunger and poverty (Senate resolution 91).

Please be aware that we appreciate all that has been done by the Senate to help in this effort. We urge you not to give up, but to continue to struggle to help those whose lives are beset with the effects of poverty.

Sincerely,

Jane Flynn

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