

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20510

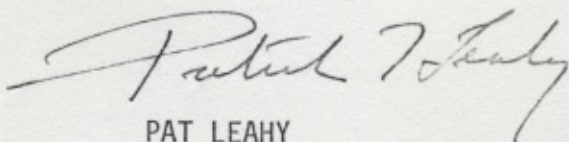
March 11, 1976

The Honorable Herman Talmadge, Chairman
Committee on Agriculture and Forestry
322 Russell Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

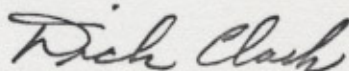
Dear Mr. Chairman:

We request that in its report to the Senate Budget Committee pursuant to Sec. 301 of the Budget Act, the Agriculture Committee recommend a spending level of not less than the Congressional Budget Office's current services estimate of \$6.325 billion for the food stamp program for FY 1977.

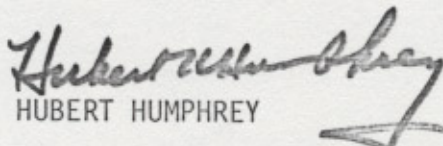
We realize, of course, that the food stamp reform bill which the Committee has recently finished marking up would not require this spending level, and we are confident that the bill which the Senate sends to the House will also reduce the current services projection. But to preserve the right of Committee members and other Senators to offer amendments on the floor, the current services estimate should be used at this time for the first concurrent budget resolution. The budgetary process was not intended to foreclose the options of the legislative process. There will be ample time after floor action is completed on the food stamp legislation to reduce the current services estimate for FY 1977.



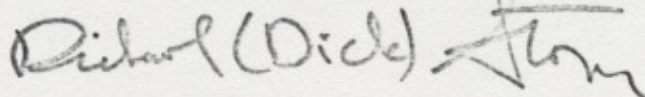
PAT LEAHY



DICK CLARK

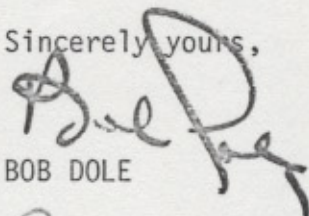


HUBERT HUMPHREY

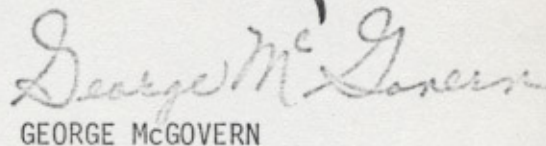


DICK STONE

Sincerely yours,



BOB DOLE



GEORGE McGOVERN



WALTER HUDDLESTON