



October 5, 2018

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Majority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer
Minority Whip
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan, Majority Leader McCarthy, Minority Leader Pelosi, and Minority Whip Hoyer:

On behalf of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU), I write to thank you for your leadership in passing the Global Food Security Reauthorization Act (GFSA) of 2018. APLU applauds Congress' bipartisan commitment to the federal government's Global Food Security Strategy, and we are deeply appreciative of your continuous efforts to reach final passage.

The GFSA's five-year reauthorization redoubles the federal government's commitment to a whole-of-government approach to combat food insecurity and hunger worldwide. Feed the Future – the U.S. government's portfolio of food security programs – is a truly comprehensive initiative and supports innovative, multisector partnerships to address the root causes of poverty and hunger. U.S. universities are proud to be an important partner in this effort by tackling food security challenges through scientific research, teaching, and extension. Researchers at university-led Feed the Future Innovation Labs, for example, lead breakthroughs in agricultural development and share scientific knowledge throughout the developing world. These investments strengthen resilience and reduce reliance on foreign aid. They also continue to demonstrate a significant return to the United States.

Codifying this suite of programs into law for an additional five years will build upon Feed the Future's progress and allow for further long-term, strategic planning and smart, efficient investments. Thank you for your support of research in meeting development challenges, and your continued efforts to engage the higher education community on these important issues.

Sincerely,

Peter McPherson
President
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities

cc: House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Edward R. Royce
House Foreign Affairs Committee Ranking Member Eliot L. Engel
The Honorable Christopher Smith
The Honorable Betty McCollum