

CHILD NUTRITION REAUTHORIZATION 2009



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OUTLINE

- Background
- Stakeholders
- Past Achievements
- Current Issues
- Current Priorities
- Possible Nutrition Recommendations
- How to Get Involved
- Final Thoughts
- Questions?



BACKGROUND

- Reauthorization occurs approximately every five years
 - Last round: 2003-4
- Programs discussed:
 - WIC
 - National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
 - School Breakfast Program (SBP)
 - Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
 - Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
 - WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program
 - Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program
 - Special Milk Program



BACKGROUND (CONT')

- Key Congressional committees
 - House Education and Labor (Miller, Woolsey)
 - Senate Agriculture Committee
- Other committees
 - Appropriations, Ways and Means, Budget
- Speaker Pelosi



STAKEHOLDERS

- School community
- Food industry
- Public health/nutrition community
- Anti-hunger groups
- Sustainable agriculture
- Students, community, children, parents, etc.



PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

- NSLP and SBP
 - Program simplification
 - Automatic eligibility for certain groups
 - Local wellness policies
 - Paperwork reduction
- Expansion of the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Pilot
- California Community Snack Pilot
- Program simplification, eligibility expansion in CACFP
- Summer nutrition programs – simplification and expansion



CURRENT ISSUES

- New administration
- Program integrity
- Funding
- Obesity
- Institute of Medicine and School Meal Standards
- Recent meal cost study



CURRENT PRIORITIES

- Improving nutrition
- Program simplification
- Expanding access and eligibility
- Food prices



POSSIBLE NUTRITION RECOMMENDATIONS

- Incentives to promote healthier offerings
- Restrictions on unhealthy items
- Increased reimbursements, possibly tied to nutrition standards & geography
- School gardens
- Salad bars
- Farm-to-school incentives
- Infrastructure funding to encourage kitchens, on-site preparation
- Competitive food regulations
- Others?



INCREASING ACCESS/PARTICIPATION & PROGRAM SIMPLIFICATION

- Elimination of the reduced price category
- Raise eligibility to 200 percent FPL
- Require all (or only low-performing, high poverty) schools to serve breakfast
- Eliminate paper applications by determining eligibility through existing data sources and increasing area eligibility
- Remove SSN field from applications
- Simplify CACFP administrative requirements
- Allow community agencies to serve meals, snacks, and suppers under one set of paperwork
- Reduce monitoring and administrative expenses in SFSP
- Expand use of direct certification/verification
- Expand use of technology to improve program operations



HOW TO GET INVOLVED

- Sign up for CFPA's alert (at www.cfpa.net)
- Food Research and Action Center (www.frac.org)
- National Alliance for Nutrition and Activity (<http://www.cspinet.org/nutritionpolicy/nana.html>)
- USDA CNR Listening Session: Wed, Aug 6
- Site visits with elected officials



FINAL THOUGHTS

- Policy change is incremental
 - Farm Bill 2007... 2008
- Child Nutrition Reauthorization is an important opportunity but don't let it preclude local action!
 - Continue local and state efforts to improve nutrition quality in nutrition programs



QUESTIONS?

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