



**2012 Farm Bill**

## NUTRITION TITLE ISSUE BRIEF

Farm bill nutrition programs comprised 77 percent of the farm bill's total spending. A small portion of the nutrition section of the bill supports local foods, which allows the money to directly help both hungry people and farmers—the best and most responsible use of taxpayer resources. NFU will be advocating for expansion of this provision in the 2012 Farm Bill.

The fruit and vegetable SNAP pilot program, study on access to SNAP in Puerto Rico, whole grain pilot, and school food purchase survey baselines expire in 2012.

The House Agriculture Appropriations bill cut:

- Funding for The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) by \$51 million – or 20 percent. The program provides food at no cost to low-income Americans in need of short-term hunger relief.
- \$38 million – or 22 percent – from the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP), which provides a nutritious monthly food package primarily to low-income seniors.

### **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program**

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as the Food Stamp Program, provides money to low-income families to help them purchase food. The 2008 Farm Bill included historic increases in funding for this program by \$7.8 billion.

### **Emergency Food Assistance Program**

The Emergency Food Assistance Program is designed to provide commodities to states which can then be distributed to food banks and soup kitchens. TEFAP is the nutrition title's second largest share of new spending, with estimated additional outlays of \$526 million over FY 2008-FY 2012 and \$1.26 billion over FY 2008-FY 2017 (17 percent and 12 percent, respectively, of the title's total estimated cost).

### **Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations**

This program provides food packages to low-income households on Indian reservations.

### **Commodity Supplemental Food Program**

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program provides food packages to pregnant and nursing women as well as to children under the age of six and the elderly.

### **Purchase of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables for Distribution**

This program provides fresh fruits and vegetables to school to be used in school meals and other child nutrition programs.

### **Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program**

Under the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, fresh fruits and vegetables are provided to schools with high number of children who are eligible for free and reduced meals

### **Healthy Urban Food Enterprise Development Center**

The Healthy Urban Food Enterprise Development Center program provides funding for the establishment of a center which will increase underserved communities' access to healthy foods which will include locally grown and produced products.



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### **Farmers Market Nutrition Programs**

The Farmers Market Nutrition Programs provides coupons to seniors, pregnant or nursing women and children under the age of six which can be redeemed at farmers markets.

### **Locally Produced Foods Directive**

Institutions that receive funds from child nutrition programs are encouraged to purchase unprocessed agricultural products that are locally grown and locally raised. These purchases must be to the maximum extent practicable, incorporate local geographic preference.

### **Hunger-Free Community Grants**

Competitive grants are awarded for projects that address community hunger problems and meet, or develop, new strategies to create hunger-free communities.

### **Emergency Food Infrastructure Grants**

These grants are awarded to food banks so they can expand their capacity or infrastructure.

### **National and International Hunger Fellows**

This program is designed to promote leadership skills for motivated individuals seeking to make a difference in the struggle to eliminate hunger and poverty. This program also encourages the purchase of whole grains and whole-grain products and their usage in school feeding programs.