

## MEMORANDUM

To: President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
CC: Secretary Xavier Becerra, Ambassador Susan Rice, Secretary Tom Vilsack  
Re: White House Conference on Food, Nutrition, Hunger, and Health Focus

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Dear Mr. President:

As members of the [Federal Nutrition Advisory Coalition \(FNAC\)](#) – an ad hoc alliance of more than 90 advocacy organizations, public health nonprofits, academic institutions, and global food brands – as well as other companies and organizations that care deeply about nutrition and health, we applaud the inclusion of the White House Conference on Food, Nutrition, Hunger, and Health in the FY 2022 Omnibus Spending Package and write to offer our enthusiastic support of this critical convening.

President Nixon convened the first – and last – [White House Conference on Food, Nutrition and Health](#) in 1969. Fifty-three years later, the health and nutrition problems our nation faces have changed dramatically. It is clear we urgently need new solutions for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We applaud your commitment to addressing nutrition, health, and hunger as the critical, interrelated issues that they are with this Conference.<sup>1</sup>

The policy outcomes from this conference have the potential to address the far-reaching consequences of nutrition insecurity that currently harm our society – from reducing race- and ethnicity-based health disparities and health care costs; to improving military readiness and US economic competitiveness; to advancing nutrition science to better shape all of our work across for-profit, nonprofit, advocacy, and academia.<sup>2</sup>

This Conference also has the potential to advance the work of organizations like ours, dramatically improve nutrition research and update government programming, as well as build upon the key lessons we all continue to learn during the pandemic, especially around the intersections of food, nutrition, and health disparities.<sup>3</sup>

Ultimately, the work from this Conference can save lives and help us build a more equitable society. We applaud your commitment and look forward to lending our expertise to these conversations before, during, and after the Conference.

Sincerely,

- The Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, Tufts University

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<sup>1</sup> <https://academic.oup.com/ajcn/article-abstract/112/3/721/5873352>

<sup>2</sup> <https://academic.oup.com/ajcn/article-abstract/112/3/721/5873352>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ahajournals.org/doi/10.1161/JAHA.120.019259>