

September 8, 2022

President Joseph R. Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

As the White House makes its final preparations for the upcoming Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health, the below agricultural organizations urge your Administration to ensure America's farmers and ranchers have a seat at the table for this discussion. The agriculture production sector should be invited to the Conference to share our experience with the attendees. Our members form the literal base of the food chain, supplying the grains, fruits, vegetables, proteins, and dairy necessary to provide Americans of all backgrounds with a healthy diet.

Among other goals for the Conference, Congress directed the organizers and attendees to examine why hunger and nutrition insecurity persist, as well as explore approaches to improve health by improving access to and consumption of nutritious foods. There is no better example than the supply chain disruptions at the start of the COVID-19 public health emergency—and the steps our members took to mitigate them—to show how essential farmers and ranchers are to food security and meeting Americans' nutrition needs.

Further, our agricultural producers and industry partners conduct extensive science-based, data-driven research into new crop traits, animal genetics, and processing techniques that create new food uses and healthier versions of our products and extend their shelf life. The agricultural sector is an important partner in improving access to and reducing waste of nutritious and affordable food.

Millions of Americans do not know where their next meal will come from. Whether they are in rural areas or urban centers; pursuing a conventional or special diet based on dietary needs, religion, or other lifestyle choices; or are young children, the elderly, or everything in between, our members are eager to fill their plates. Agriculture was a key partner in the 1969 White House Conference on Food, Nutrition, and Health—we again stand ready to work with government and private sector partners to identify and act on steps that can lead to a healthier America in 2030.

Sincerely,

American Farm Bureau Federation
National Association of Wheat Growers
National Cattlemen's Beef Association
National Sorghum Producers
The Peanut Institute
US Canola Association

American Soybean Association
National Barley Growers Association
National Corn Growers Association
National Sunflower Association
United Egg Producers
USA Rice

Cc: Secretary of Agriculture Thomas J. Vilsack