

## **Child Nutrition Promotion and School Lunch Protection Act**

While national nutritional standards for the school lunch and breakfast programs are updated periodically in accordance with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, nutrition standards for foods sold outside of school meals are not (vending machines, school snack bars, and a la carte items). Because these standards are over 30 years old, they are out of sync with current concerns about children's diets and health. As a result, while children receive sound nutrition from federally-reimbursed school meals, foods such as soft drinks, candy, and fried snack foods are readily available at school, undermining child health and wasting taxpayer dollars invested in the federal school meal programs.

Legislation has been introduced (S. 2592 and HR 5167) requiring the Secretary of Agriculture to create regulations for such foods and update USDA nutritional standards.

Please contact U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson (202) 224-5922 or <http://hutchison.senate.gov/e-mail.htm> and U.S. Senator John Cornyn (202) 224-2934 <http://cornyn.senate.gov/contact/index.html> today to express your support of this act.