

*“NANASP strongly supports the Senior Hunger Prevention Act and commend Senators Gillibrand and Fetterman and all the cosponsors for their leadership,” said **Bob Blancato of the National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs**. “The bill proposes comprehensive and realistic solutions to the growing problem of hunger and food insecurity impacting more older adults. We especially praise the inclusion of grandparents raising grandchildren and other kinship caregivers in this legislation. Bureaucracy and outdated rules that contribute to older adults going hungry need to be scrapped. We call on this important legislation to be passed by Congress in time for national nutrition month in March.”*

*“It’s wrong for anyone to go hungry in a country wealthy as the United States, but it’s particularly unconscionable when older Americans — who built our nation, raised our children, and fought our wars — can’t afford enough food,” said **Joel Berg, CEO of Hunger Free America**. “We are grateful that Senator Gillibrand is addressing this grave crisis of older Americans hunger.”*

*“As Pennsylvanians age, their diet and nutrition plays an important role in their ability to live healthy, independent lives,” said **Julie Bancroft, CEO of Feeding Pennsylvania**. “The Senior Hunger Prevention Act will streamline application processes, increase outreach efforts, and expand food access so that all eligible seniors, grandparent caregivers, and adults with disabilities have options to put healthy food on the table.”*

*“We thank Congresswoman Bonamici and Senators Gillibrand and Fetterman for reintroducing the Senior Hunger Prevention Act, vital legislation that Meals on Wheels America proudly endorses,” said **Ellie Hollander, President and CEO of Meals on Wheels America**. “If adopted, this act would increase seniors’ access to SNAP, the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) and other federal nutrition programs administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. These commonsense solutions would help strengthen vital nutrition access for older adults, which is of the utmost importance at a time when seniors are overlooked far too often and nearly 14 million worry about when and where they will get their next meal.”*

*“At a time when new policies are placing food assistance further out of reach for older Americans, the Senior Hunger Prevention Act takes important steps to break down barriers,” said **Abby J. Leibman, President & CEO of MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger**. “By increasing the minimum monthly SNAP benefit for all program participants and simplifying the enrollment process in nutrition programs, this legislation will keep food on the plates of some of our most vulnerable neighbors. We look forward to continuing our work with Senators Gillibrand and Fetterman to meet the basic nutrition needs of all Americans.”*

"Food insecurity has a particularly strong impact on older adults. While SNAP is a vital anti-hunger program, its complicated application process and insufficient benefit levels can make it difficult for people of all ages to access and fully benefit from the support it provides," **said Kathleen Stress, Interim Executive Director at Feeding New York State.** *"Across our food bank network, we see many older New Yorkers who are new to our food programs due to rising costs of living and other complications. That's why the Senior Hunger Prevention Act is critical—it increases SNAP benefits, simplifies applications, and strengthens outreach to help reduce hunger."*