

Dear _____:

For more than five years our lunch program has been complying with the USDA Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010. Due to these regulations we have experienced a steady decline in student participation and an increase in the wasting of good food.

Due to the requirement that students must take a fruit or vegetable with their entree, we are seeing many fruits and vegetables in the trash – untouched. Conscientious parents and students do not want to waste food. The result is that schools are being forced to purchase more fruits and vegetables, and the students are not eating them. The enforcement of this regulation is resulting in so much waste, it is a shame. Additionally, the ala carte regulations have limited our options and that method has suffered as well.

We have heard from our students that the taste of the food is not appetizing . This can be attributed to the lower fat and salt content of the products we are allowed to purchase. Also, the portion sizes have been mentioned as too small, especially for high school boys, again due to the current regulations.

We understand that childhood obesity is an issue. However, this program has been in effect for over five years and it does not appear that it is working towards rectifying that problem. There needs to be a change in these regulations which will allow us to offer foods to students which they will eat, and loosen the requirements to force students to take certain foods which they throw away.

Thank you for your action towards getting our students the lunch program which will offer the best opportunity for them, both in eliminating their hunger and increasing their learning ability.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature, possibly "D-2", is enclosed within a hand-drawn oval shape in the bottom right corner of the page.