

APPENDIX U9.

60-DAY FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE COMMENTS RECEIVED HARVEY



Feeding Bodies. Fueling Minds.™

May 18, 2018

Ashley Chaifetz, Ph.D.
Social Science Research Analyst
Special Nutrition Evaluation Branch
Office of Policy Support
USDA Food and Nutrition Service
3101 Park Center Drive
Alexandria, VA 22302

Dear Dr. Chaifetz:

These comments are submitted on behalf of the 57,000 members of the School Nutrition Association (SNA) in response to the US Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Agency Information Collection Activities: *Proposed Collection; Comment Request—Farm to School Census and Comprehensive*, published on March 19, 2018 in the Federal Register. SNA's membership includes school nutrition professionals serving students in K-12 schools, college level academic instructors/professors in related fields, state agency personnel administering Federal child nutrition programs and other related professionals.

SNA recognizes the importance and function of the many research activities conducted by FNS, and SNA's members are sincerely committed to assisting in the collection of valuable data on the implementation of key initiatives like Farm to School. FNS should be mindful, however, of the time and resources that participation in all of these studies pose on School Food Authorities (SFAs). Whether it is fielding numerous phone calls to schedule interviews, having interviews take more time than anticipated, gathering data and converting it into the study's design format, or completing a lengthy survey, all take time away from managing and administering school nutrition programs. In some instances, information requested has been previously collected by the State agency. Wherever it is possible, FNS should work to streamline data collection processes so as to minimize the impact on SFAs. In addition, as these studies rely on SFA participation, it would be appreciated if FNS would share, at the outset, how a study is relevant and how it will benefit school nutrition programs.

SNA members greatly appreciate Farm to School Program activities and initiatives, which have supported the implementation of new meal pattern requirements, increased student

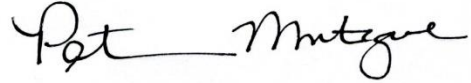
acceptance and consumption of fruits and vegetables, and allowed SFAs to build ties in their local and regional communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important review of a valuable program. We continue to look forward to working with FNS in supporting child nutrition programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lynn Harvey".

Dr. Lynn Harvey, RDN, LDN, FAND, SNS
President

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat Montague".

Patricia Montague, CAE
Chief Executive Officer