



Feeding Bodies. Fueling Minds.™

August 24, 2017

Desk Officer for Agriculture
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Office of Management and Budget
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Ms. Ruth Brown
Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer
Departmental Clearance Office
USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602
Washington, DC 0250-7602

ELECTRONIC MAIL

Dear Ms. Brown and OMB Representative:

On behalf of the 57,000 members of the School Nutrition Association (SNA), we appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Federal Register Notice of July 24, 2017, Submission for OMB review; Comment Request. This comment request is related to the *Evaluation of the Direct Certification with Medicaid for Free and Reduced-Priced (DCM-F/RP) Meals Demonstration*, OMB Control Number 0584-New and *Evaluation of the School Meal Data Collection Process*, OMB Control 0584-New, studies that USDA has proposed to conduct.

Due to the potential impact of these studies on National School Lunch Program administrators, at the state and local levels, we would like to submit the attached comment letters we previously submitted in response to the Federal Register Notices published January 5, 2017, requesting comments on the *Evaluation of the School Meal Data Collection Process* and February 24, 2017, requesting comments on the *Evaluation of the Direct Certification with Medicaid for Free and Reduced-Priced (DCM-F/RP) Meals Demonstration*.

As this research directly involves SNA members, we would like to reiterate our request that the designs of both studies minimize the burden on respondents, in reflection of the number of collections and evaluations currently planned or underway.

Child Nutrition Programs overall would greatly benefit from streamlined processes and procedures, including those related to school meal data collections and direct certification. It is

critical, however, that any streamlining of meal benefit eligibility requirement procedures maintain and protect the integrity of the student information, while providing relief to the administrative burdens of those responsible for managing these programs.

SNA appreciates the opportunity to offer these comments on this and future USDA data collection activities and remains willing to work with FNS in any way to help promote and facilitate this research effort.

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

Attachments