



2015 Position Paper Reauthorization of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act

Provide program simplification.

As Congress drafts and USDA implements 2015 Child Nutrition Reauthorization, prompt action must be taken to simplify child nutrition programs and ease administrative burdens on SFAs and State Agencies. The overwhelming complexity of program regulations and administrative requirements is unnecessarily hindering efforts to better serve students.

For example, in its [analysis](#) of the implementation of the new nutrition standards, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) found:

“In the 18 months from January 2012 -- the month in which the final rule on the changes to the lunch content and nutrition standards was issued -- through the end of school year 2012-2013, USDA issued 1,800 pages of guidance on these changes.”

GAO’s national survey revealed that “almost two-thirds of states” reported that “changes USDA made to its guidance on the lunch requirements were a very great challenge or extreme challenge...guidance changes were difficult to keep up with and led to increased confusion about the requirements.”