



Dear Senator Ernst,

As you work to renew our food and farm programs through the farm bill, I urge you to support legislation that builds healthy, equitable, and sustainable food systems.

Specifically, I ask you to:

- Increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables by increasing support for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP), which provides resources on top of monthly SNAP benefits for a limited number of households to use towards the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables primarily at farmers' markets.
- Eliminate barriers to SNAP for marginalized populations. For example, end the ban on access by former drug offenders, eliminate work requirements for college students, and permit indigenous communities to administer SNAP and other federal nutrition programs on reservations.
- Keep food out of landfills by increasing research and support for post-harvest food recovery efforts.
- Promote research to address the threat to food security posed by extreme weather.
- Support funding for international food aid programs such as Food for Peace.

As a person of faith, I am moved to help and advocate for people experiencing hunger and poverty – no matter where they live. This is why I urge you to support a farm bill that builds healthy, equitable, and sustainable food systems.

Sincerely,