

The White House Conference on Food and Nutrition (HR1382)

About Us

Registered dietitians work to improve the health of all Americans through access to healthy food and nutrition services. The American Dietetic Association represents more than 70,000 members; and is the world's largest organization of food and nutrition professionals.

We Ask For Your Support of the White House Conference on Food and Nutrition

HR 1382 creates a policy conference on food and nutrition inviting experts to make recommendations on ways to end hunger and improve nutrition while saving costs in the United States. The purpose would be to:

- Review the current structure, scope and effectiveness of relevant nutrition legislation.
- Explore ways to improve efficiencies in current federal, state and local nutrition programs.
- Identify new ways to utilize US resources to meet the nutritional needs of Americans.
- Highlight emerging and innovative nutrition programs from the public and private sectors.
- Identify effective partnerships between government, industry and the nonprofit sector.

HR 1382 has bipartisan cosponsorship by Congressman McGovern (MA-3) and Congresswoman Emerson (MO-8).

It has been 42 years since the last White House Conference on Food and Nutrition; since then many things have changed including an increase in chronic diseases like type-2 diabetes, childhood obesity and certain types of nutrition-related cancers which are costing Americans hundreds of thousands of lives and billions of dollars.¹

HR 1382 will establish a platform where health and nutrition professionals – including registered dietitians – will be able to come together to discuss and develop ideas and make policy recommendations to help reduce costly nutrition related chronic diseases including:

- Diabetes → There are 25.8 million people with diabetes, costing America \$178 billion per year.²
- Obesity → Obesity is costing the healthcare system \$147 billion per year.
- Food Insecurity → In 2009 (latest data available) there were roughly 50.2 million Americans who lived in food insecure households, including 17.3 million children.³

By cosponsoring Hr 1382 you will:

- Help provide solutions to reduce chronic diseases from nutrition-related problems and food insecurity.
- Help to facilitate a national discussion about innovative new programs and improvements to existing ones that will help increase the return on investment.
- Help to bring together the very best of public and private sector ideas to help improve America's health and save lives.

¹ <http://www.diabetes.org/diabetes-basics/diabetes-statistics/>

² <http://www.diabetes.org/diabetes-basics/diabetes-statistics/>

³ <http://feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/hunger-facts/hunger-and-poverty-statistics.aspx>