Dear Senator:

On behalf of MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger, I am writing to call your attention to the heightened problem of hunger in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and urge you to prioritize swift action on a COVID-relief package that provides needed assistance to the tens of millions of Americans now struggling with food insecurity and economic hardship.

MAZON is deeply concerned about the growing crisis of hunger resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and economic downturn. It is unconscionable that our federal government has allowed this situation to grow worse each day - the Senate must take immediate action to address this unacceptable situation as part of the next COVID-relief legislative package.

We urge you to prioritize critical improvements to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), our country's cornerstone anti-hunger program with a record for effectively responding at times of rising need and contributing to economic recovery.

The next COVID-relief bill must prioritize:

- Boosting the maximum SNAP benefit by 15%
- Increasing the minimum SNAP benefit from $16 to $30 per month
- Suspending all harmful administrative rule changes to SNAP
- Extending and expanding access for the Pandemic-EBT program to replace school meals unavailable due to school closures
- Providing helpful clarity and expanding eligibility and funding for Tribal governments and Indian Tribal Organizations to more effectively respond to the hunger crisis in Indian Country that has been exacerbated by the pandemic
- Protecting access to food assistance for displaced college students
- Providing $1.236 billion in additional nutrition aid to address the overwhelming food insecurity challenges in Puerto Rico that have been significantly worsened by the pandemic

Thank you for your consideration of prompt action on these critical issues - I hope that MAZON and our network of partners across the
country can count on your support to appropriately respond to the urgent demands of this moment and address the needs of the most vulnerable during this time of crisis.

MAZON welcomes the opportunity to work with you to prioritize anti-hunger issues in the next COVID-19 response legislation and in the future.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Josh Protas
Vice President of Public Policy