

# Congresswoman Betty McCollum

Minnesota's Fourth Congressional District



## Fact Sheet:

### *The Global Food Security Act Reauthorization of 2022*

H.R. 8446

The *Global Food Security Reauthorization Act of 2022* builds upon the landmark *Global Food Security Act of 2016* (GFSA), which formally codified the Feed the Future Initiative and was signed into law with bipartisan support in July 2016.

- Feed the Future is the U.S. Government's global hunger and food security initiative and engages with target countries to enhance food security and nutrition in developing nations. Led by the U.S. Agency for International Development, Feed the Future draws on the agricultural, trade, investment, development and policy resources and expertise of multiple U.S. federal departments and agencies, putting whole-of-government into practice.
  - **Feed the Future Accomplishments to date:**
    - 23.4 million more people living above the poverty line;
    - 5.2 million more families no longer suffering from hunger;
    - 3.4 million more children living free from stunting;
    - \$15.3 billion earned by farmers in new agricultural sales;
    - \$4 billion unlocked in loans for smallholder farmers; and
    - \$2.2 billion leveraged in private sector investment
- As many as 828 million people go to bed hungry every night, and nearly 150 million children under the age of five suffer from the damaging effects of stunting, leading to lifelong conditions of poor health, impaired cognitive and physical development and diminished productivity.
- Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine has made the need greater than ever, exacerbating an already staggering global food crisis. In addition to strengthening local and regional economies in some of the world's poorest countries, these programs are critical to national security. Together, Russia and Ukraine supply 12% of the world's traded calories – 28% of globally traded wheat, 29% of the barley, 15% of the maize, and 75% of the sunflower oil. Nearly 250 million people are on the brink of famine, and further political unrest could lead to a global food crisis.

*The Global Food Security Reauthorization Act of 2022* reauthorizes the GFSA for five years through fiscal year 2028 and makes common sense updates to reflect the world we live in today compared to 2016 when the bill was originally signed into law. Specific updates include:

- Reflecting updates outlined in the U.S. Global Food Security Strategy (GFSS) released in October 2021. New emphasis is placed on:
  - **Inclusive and sustainable agriculture-led economic growth**—growth in the agriculture sector is up to four times more effective at reducing extreme poverty in developing countries than growth in other sectors—directly driving demand for locally produced goods and services, and indirectly by making the real price of food more affordable.
  - **Strengthened resilience among people, communities, countries, and systems**—increasingly frequent and intense shocks and stresses such as climate change and COVID-19 threaten the ability of men, women, and families to sustainably emerge from poverty and prosper.
  - **A well-nourished population, especially among women and children**—undernutrition, particularly during the 1,000 days from pregnancy to a child's second birthday, is the attributable cause of 45% of child deaths. For those children who survive, malnutrition leads to lower levels of educational attainment, productivity, lifetime earnings, and economic growth rates.

**In summary, the Reauthorization:**

- Reauthorizes Feed the Future to fight hunger and strengthen agricultural production;
- Requires the federal government to develop a whole-of-government Global Food Security Strategy to promote global food security that puts food-insecure countries on a path to self-sustainability;
- Leverages resources provided by non-governmental and faith-based organizations, private enterprises, agricultural research institutions, universities, and foreign governments to maximize efficiency and impact.
- Ensures the alignment of U.S. assistance with country-owned strategies to enhance productivity and market-based economic growth, with the goal of reducing dependence upon U.S. foreign assistance.
- Promotes agriculture-led economic growth, bolsters smallholder—especially women—farmers, builds up resilience to food, environmental, conflict, and other shocks, improves nutritional outcomes for maternal and child health.; and
- Effectively uses taxpayer dollars and enhances transparency through reporting requirements on the investment and results of U.S. and other donor commitments