



NEWS RELEASE

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Statement of Tom Stenzel, President and CEO, United Fresh Produce Association, on the Senate Agriculture Committee's "Improving Child Nutrition Integrity and Access Act of 2016."

"United Fresh Produce Association congratulates Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee Chairman Pat Roberts and Ranking Member Debbie Stabenow on their strong bipartisan child nutrition bill that protects healthy school meals, including access to more fruits and vegetables, benefitting 31 million children everyday. We also support the Committee's goal to promote school salad bars as an effective strategy to increase children's access and consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables. This bill reaffirms the importance of doubling the amount and variety of fruits and vegetables in school meals and ensuring that all school meals include fruits and vegetables.

While we are disappointed that the bill changes the highly effective and very popular Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP), we appreciate the Committee's commitment to maintain the goal of the FFVP to provide students with fresh fruits and vegetables as snacks.

United Fresh is committed to partnering and collaborating with schools nationwide to ensure their success serving more fresh fruits and vegetables in school meals and snacks."

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Founded in 1904, the **United Fresh Produce Association** brings together companies across every segment of the fresh produce supply chain, including growers, shippers, fresh-cut processors, wholesalers, distributors, retailers, foodservice operators, industry suppliers and allied associations. We empower industry leaders to shape sound government policy. We deliver the resources and expertise companies need to succeed in managing complex business and technical issues. We provide the training and development individuals need to advance their careers in produce. Through these endeavors, we unite our industry with a common purpose – to build long-term value for our members and grow produce consumption.