

April 27, 2022

Nutrition CEO Council Members Applaud U.S. House of Representatives for Passing the Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act (H.R. 4693)

Washington, D.C. - *This statement is issued on behalf of the Nutrition CEO Council by 1,000 Days, Bread for the World, CARE, Helen Keller Intl, and RESULTS.*

Today, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act ([H.R. 4693](#)), critical legislation which provides the U.S. government with a framework, direction, and tools required to meet the global challenge of malnutrition. The Nutrition CEO Council applauds this bipartisan action by the House to address the rising rates of malnutrition around the world and demonstrate support for ending preventable child deaths caused by malnutrition.

Malnutrition is entirely preventable, but it is the underlying cause of nearly half of deaths of children under five worldwide, claiming the lives of over three million children each year. This crisis is only getting worse – the COVID-19 pandemic could result in up to a 50 percent increase in severe malnutrition. The war in Ukraine and its impact on global food systems will further compound global malnutrition.

Nutrition is a building block of strong health, development, and resiliency. The Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act will give USAID the tools it needs to deploy targeted, evidence-based solutions to prevent and treat malnutrition around the world and to improve the futures of vulnerable children and families. This legislation increases coverage of high-impact nutrition interventions in priority countries, updates and planning and reporting requirements, amplifies U.S. government nutrition investments through innovative financing, improves coordination on nutrition programming within the United Nations system, and expands the nutrition research agenda. This deepened U.S. leadership and strategic focus could improve the lives of millions of people worldwide.

We thank the over 100 cosponsors of the Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act, especially House Foreign Affairs Committee leaders, Chairman Gregory Meeks (D-NY-5) and Ranking Member Michael McCaul (R-TX-10), and Representatives Young Kim (R-CA-39) and Chrissy Houlahan (D-PA-6) for their leadership. We call on the Senate to swiftly pass this legislation and help catalyze progress to end global malnutrition and support millions of children and families to survive and thrive. The time to act is now.



The Nutrition CEO Council is a body of leaders from international non-governmental organizations that aims to inspire increased support for nutrition from U.S. political leadership through high-level engagement and advance civil society advocacy, commitment, and support for nutrition as a foundational part of all development success. More information about the Council is available at NutritionCEOCouncil.com.