

May 10, 2020
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Dear Senator Harris:

I am concerned about hunger. For thirty years extreme poverty has been falling in the world but the UN now estimates that starvation will double this year as climate change exacerbates drought and locusts while COVID mitigation further damages crops. The US has come forward with only a tenth of a percent of the required funding. Similarly in the US a decade of improving food security has ended. Bills to help have passed but Republican bad faith is eroding their effectiveness. There is the USDA's gratuitously vicious mis-interpretation of the Families First act leaving the previous maximum in place to produce minimal savings and maximum damage; there is the fumbled start of the Pandemic-EBT lunch program where (like COVID testing) states are left on their own; and most clarifying there is the hundred billion dollar change in limitation on losses rider to the CARES act (enough to feed the quarter billion people starving this year) as a handout to millionaires such as the President and Senate majority leader.

Please assure me that you will hold the administration to account in ending hunger.

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from our abundant food.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson