

## Bread for the World

We know hunger is solvable – but we can't do it alone. We work with churches, campuses, and other organizations to engage people in organized advocacy and urge members of Congress to pass legislation that will help end hunger.

### Offering of Letters to Congress

Each year, our Offering of Letters campaign engages churches, campuses, and other faith communities in writing personalized letters to Congress on issues related to hunger in the US and around the world, resulting in tens of thousands of letters. Over the years, these letters and emails have helped inspire our leaders in Washington DC to pass legislation impacting millions of people.

### We Need Your Help

Bread for the World is once again focusing on the Farm Bill. Our congregation's involvement is key, given that our Congresswoman, Monica De La Cruz, is on the House Agriculture Committee.

Writing Letters to Members of Congress: An effective letter contains these three essential elements:

1. State something specific. The farm bill is our nation's most important national food system legislation. It is critical to the work of ending hunger at home and abroad.
2. Name the action. As Congress works to renew our food and farm programs through the farm bill, I urge you to support legislation that builds healthy, equitable and sustainable food systems. Specifically, I ask you to:
  - I urge you to protect the current Thrifty Food Plan and ensure that future adjustments reflect food-price inflation, dietary guidelines, and the cost of healthy diets without making further cuts to SNAP.
  - I urge you to tell your leadership that you support a mandate of no more than 30 percent of the Food for Peace budget be spent on U.S. commodities and ocean freight.
  - I also urge you to protect and strengthen Food for Peace by rejecting harmful carveouts and ensuring that USAID continues to have the authority to implement lifesaving emergency and development food assistance as it has for the past 70 years.
3. Give a reason. State in your own words why these actions are important to you. For example, "As a person of faith, I am moved to help and advocate for people experiencing hunger and poverty - no matter where they live."
4. Send your letter to:

*Rep. Monica de la Cruz*  
*U.S. House of Representatives*  
*Washington, DC 20515*

*Senator John Cornyn*  
*U.S. Senate*  
*Washington, DC 20510*

*Senator Ted Cruz*  
*U.S. Senate*  
*Washington, DC 20510*



If you prefer to send an email, use this website: <https://go.bread.org/page/62469/action/>

When you click on the link, begin by entering your name and address. Also respond when prompted that this email is part of an Offering of Letters, and enter First Presbyterian Church, McAllen, TX in the blank. The email system will then select our Representative and Senators based on your address. From there you'll be taken to an email that is ready to send to our Representative and Senators.

More information: Felipe (felipecsalinas@gmail.com 956-457-1539) or Cathy (cathy.salinas@gmail.com 956-400-1909)

Thank you for participating in this important endeavor! Your voice matters and makes a difference to those in need!

# Writing Letters to Members of Congress

An effective letter contains these three essential elements:

## 1. State something specific.

*The farm bill is our nation's most important national food system legislation. It is critical to the work of ending hunger at home and abroad.*

## 2. Name the action.

*As Congress works to renew our food and farm programs through the farm bill, I urge you to support legislation that builds healthy, equitable and sustainable food systems. Specifically, I ask you to:*

- *Protect the current Thrifty Food Plan and ensure that future adjustments reflect food-price inflation, dietary guidelines, and the cost of healthy diets without cutting SNAP funding.*
- *Support a mandate that no more than 30 percent of the Food for Peace budget be spent on U.S. commodities and ocean freight, and reject harmful carveouts to ensure USAID has the authority to implement lifesaving emergency and development food assistance as it has for the past 70 years.*

## 3. Give a reason.

- State in your own words why these actions are important or why they matter to you.

*Example: "As a person of faith, I am moved to help and advocate for people experiencing hunger and poverty – no matter where they live."*

### **Send your letter to:**

Rep. Monica De La Cruz  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Senator John Cornyn  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Ted Cruz  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

**If you prefer to send an email, scan this QR code, which will take you to a form. First, enter your name and address. At the bottom, check off that this email is part of an offering of letters, then enter that it is coming from "First Presbyterian Church, McAllen." After that you'll get to the actual email addressed to our Senators and Representative, which can edit if you wish before submitting it.**

