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June 22, 1966

Honorable Maston O'Neal
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. O'Neal:

Mrs. D. A. Greer, Bainbridge, asked that a synopsis of House Resolution 13361 and Senate Bill 3467 be sent to you with an analysis of the advantages of Senate Bill 3467 over House Resolution 13361.

We have been proud of the growth, progress, and acceptance of the School Lunch Program in Georgia. Since its inception more than twenty years ago, school administrators have recognized the value of good nutrition to the total education program. They have also recognized that many children are not adequately fed and that poor nutrition is not limited to economically needy. All children need a nutritious school lunch. It has been the goal of school people to make it possible for all children to have access to a school lunch at a price most could afford to pay.

Consequently, school administrators have tried to keep lunch prices within the reach of most children to encourage pupils to pay for lunches. Even so, the schools have served 7% - 10% of the lunches without charge to the neediest children. Seventy-two percent of the pupils in school have a nutritious lunch each day. Georgia had the fifth highest school lunch participation in the nation during the 1964-65 school year. In March 1966, 690,000 children ate lunch each day!

The Georgia program is based on the 1946 National School Lunch Act. With the advent of new federal programs (Elementary and Secondary Education Act and Economic Opportunity Act), School Food Service has expanded and administration has been fragmented.

We are in agreement with the need for bringing food service programs together under one Comprehensive Act as would be provided in either the Child Nutrition Act (H.R. 13361) or the Ellender Amendment (S.B. 3467). We feel very strongly that Senate Bill 3467 would conform to the beliefs of Georgia people; that House Resolution 13361, a poverty oriented Bill, would not be acceptable to school people.

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House Resolution 13361, The Child Nutrition Act, consists of five Titles:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Analysis</u>
I. School Lunch:	The emphasis in School Lunch would be toward the economically needy. The basic concept in this Title is to let the middle class pay the full price and federal government would provide lunches for the needy. <u>Fortunately</u> , Georgia communities are not segregated according to economic status.
II. Special Milk:	The Special Milk Program would be limited to: (1) Schools without a lunch program. (2) Needy children in schools with a lunch program, or (3) Other schools. The recommended appropriation is \$21,000,000, which is an \$82,000,000 reduction over the 1965-66 school year. Over 1900 Georgia schools participate in the Special Milk Program. Under the proposal of the Child Nutrition Act, participation would be limited to approximately 300 to 400 schools.
III. School Breakfast Program:	Provides for a pilot program for economically needy pupils, or ones who travel long distances to school.
IV. Special Food Service Program for Needy Children:	Provides for a summer food service program for needy pupils. There is concern about what happens to children in the summer when they do not have a lunch (school).
V. Non-Food Assistance:	Provides assistance to help needy schools purchase equipment in order to have a food service program.
VI. Other:	Provides assistance to help states administer the food service program. School lunch is probably the only federal aid program to education that has not provided <u>any</u> administrative funds to the states.

Senate Bill 3467 - Amendment to the National School Lunch Act:

<u>Section</u>	<u>Analysis</u>
	The National School Lunch Act is retained as the Basic Food Service Program with no changes. This Act was passed in 1946 with Senator Russell as one of the sponsorers. Senator Ellender was also one of the authors. The School Lunch Act places emphasis on "safeguarding the health and well-being of the nation's children." Under Senator Ellender's Bill, the following provisions are proposed.
<u>Section 13:</u> The Special Milk Program:	The program would operate basically as it has operated since 1954. The program would be available to all eligible schools. All children <u>need milk</u> .
<u>Section 14:</u> School Breakfast Program:	"Identical to provisions in Child Nutrition Act." This would be a pilot program for needy children. It is my belief that school breakfast should be only for needy children. The long school day and school consolidation make it necessary for children to have lunch at school; but <u>all children are home</u> for breakfast and, in my opinion, only the neediest should have breakfast at school.
<u>Section 15:</u> Non-Food Assistance:	Same as provision in Child Nutrition Act.
<u>Section 17:</u> State Administrative Expenses:	Same as provisions in Child Nutrition Act.

Advantages of Senate Bill 3467 over House Resolution 13361:

1. National School Lunch Act is preserved for all pupils.
2. Nutrition is recognized as education and not as welfare.
3. Special Milk Program is available for all pupils and not limited to needy.

Honorable Maston O'Neal

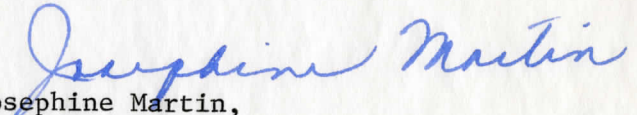
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We shall appreciate your support of Senate Bill 3467 and your influence in getting this program adequately funded.

If you need further information, please let me know. It is always a joy to work with Mrs. Greer and we are grateful for her interest in this program.

Sincerely yours,


Josephine Martin,
State Supervisor
School Food Service Program

JM:gc

cc: Mrs. D. A. Greer

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