



The Honorable Sanford Bishop  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Bishop:

The United States Peanut Federation (USPF) is comprised of the Southern Peanut Farmers Federation, the American Peanut Shellers Association and the National Peanut Buying Points Association.

The USPF would like to express our appreciation to Congress on passing the three stimulus bills which include funding for growers, agribusinesses and nutrition. These resources will be essential in providing food to those in need during this evolving pandemic, as well as ensure that the products Americans are receiving are safe and accessible.

As Congress continues to work on providing further assistance and developing the Fiscal Year 2021 Agricultural Appropriations legislation, the peanut industry believes that peanut butter is a product, not only during a pandemic, but for any situation where people are in need, that should be considered.

Peanuts and peanut butter provide health benefits for Americans at every stage of life, including pregnancy, infancy, childhood, adulthood, and older adulthood. Peanut butter contains 8 grams of high-quality protein, which contributes to proper body and brain development in children. Dollar for dollar, peanuts and peanut butter are less expensive than almost all nut and meat proteins. Peanut butter contains 19 vitamins and minerals, some of which are considered "hard-to-get" nutrients in the American diet. One of these vitamins, folate, is especially crucial for pregnant women to ensure adequate fetal development. Regular consumption of peanuts and peanut butter has also been associated with reduced risks of three of the most prevalent diseases in the United States, including heart disease, cancer, and diabetes. As a staple for American households, peanut butter fits well into many dietary patterns. Pairing the affordability with nutrition and a very long shelf life – peanuts and peanut butter are excellent staples for most pantries.

As these programs are implemented, we hope peanut butter will receive the appropriate consideration.

Again, we welcome any and every opportunity to use peanut products to help those in need, and we look forward to continuing to work with you on issues of common interest in the future. If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert L. Redding" followed by a stylized flourish.

Robert L. Redding  
United States Peanut Federation