



Request to Cosponsor H.R. 8355

Accountable Produce Is Medicine Bill

Dear:

On behalf of the members of the [Accountable Food Is Medicine Alliance](#), we urge you to cosponsor **H.R. 8355**, bipartisan legislation introduced by Representatives Lloyd Smucker (R-PA) and Sharice Davids (D-KS). The bill would require the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation to establish at least five Accountable Food Is Medicine demonstration projects.

Accountable Food Is Medicine programs integrate nutritious food, nutrition education, and clinical care for people with diabetes, hypertension, obesity, cardiovascular disease, and other diet-related conditions. According to the CDC, 90 percent of the nation's annual health care expenditures are directly tied to chronic and mental health conditions. This is the true driver of health care costs in America. Evidence from Food Is Medicine initiatives shows that these programs can improve blood glucose, blood pressure, weight management, food security, and patient engagement while reducing avoidable emergency department visits, hospitalizations, complications, and overall healthcare costs.

H.R. 8355 would ensure that participating demonstrations measure patient participation, clinical outcomes, healthcare utilization, and financial performance. This accountable approach will help CMMI identify the models that deliver the strongest health improvements and savings and determine how successful programs can be expanded. The bill can also strengthen partnerships among healthcare providers, community organizations, farmers, and local food systems.

At a time when Congress is seeking practical, bipartisan solutions to improve health and control chronic-disease costs, we respectfully urge you to join Representatives Smucker and Davids as a cosponsor of H.R. 8355.

For additional information or to arrange a meeting with representatives of the Accountable Food Is Medicine Alliance, please contact:

Duanne Pearson

Senior Vice President

Strategic Health Care

Duanne.Pearson@shcare.net

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

The Members of the Accountable Food Is Medicine Alliance