

Co-sponsor the Improving Training for School Food Service Workers Act (S. 2331 and H.R. 2651)



.....

School food service workers prepare and serve students the healthful meals that fuel them for learning. These workers need ongoing professional development that gives them the resources and tools to be successful.

S. 2331 and H.R. 2651 RECOGNIZE THE VALUE OF SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE PROFESSIONALS

- ▶ The Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFK), the reauthorization of the Child Nutrition Act, requires annual training and certification for food service personnel to ensure program compliance and to meet standards for food safety and methods.
- ▶ The Improving Training for Food Service Workers Act builds on HHFK standards and places a priority on opportunities for **hands-on, relevant, high-quality professional development**. This recognizes how essential these workers are in their schools.
- ▶ As schools move toward providing students with increasingly healthy meals, food service workers are more important to students' learning environment than ever. These professionals need appropriate training for the food preparation expertise required.

S. 2331 and H.R. 2651 REMOVE BARRIERS TO TRAINING PROGRAMS

- ▶ Many food service professionals must work two or three jobs to make a living, or have family obligations that make it extremely difficult for them to attend training sessions outside work hours. S. 2331 and H.R. 2651 would ensure that:
 - training sessions occur primarily during work hours;
 - food service workers are informed in advance and compensated for attending sessions that occur outside of work hours; and
 - workers are not penalized if they cannot attend training sessions outside work hours.

The Improving Training for School Food Service Workers Act was introduced in the House by Reps. Pocan (D-WI), Katko (R-NY), and Stefanik (R-NY); and in the Senate by Sen. Murray (D-WA).