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05/28/2002 02:31:07 PM

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Record Type: Record

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Subject: Suggestion for Guidance Document Improvements

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Name of Guidance:

Child Nutrition Program Regulations

Regulating Agency:

United States Department of Agriculture USDA

Subagency (if any):

Food and Nutrition Service

Citation (Code of Federal Regulation):

Federal Register, Tuesday, June 13, 1995

Authority (Statute/Regulation):

National School Lunch Act, Section 2, 42 USC 1751 Meal Requirements for Child Nutrition Programs 7 C

Description of Problem (Nature of Impact and on Whom):

95 of American children are enrolled in school. Most eat at least one or two meals a day at school.

Historical background: The National School Lunch Program NSLP as instituted by Congress in 1946, was to safeguard the health and well-being of the Nations children. At that time, nutritional concerns in the US centered on nutrient deficiencies and issues of under consumption. Meal requirements of the NSLP were designed to provide food sufficient to approximate 1/3 of the National Academy of Sciences Recommended Dietary AllowancesRDA. The School Breakfast Program, added in 1966, was planned

to provide an additional 1/4 of the child's daily total.

Current status: The nutrition problems of children today have changed to overconsumption of food and an imbalance of nutrients. Eating patterns of children have changed dramatically over the past 20 years. Kennedy More than 2/3 of American children are overweight. Minority groups are especially at risk.

Program regulations now in force requiring a minimum calorie level for Breakfast and Lunch are contributing to the problem of obesity and type 2 diabetes in school aged children. The regulations require additional labor, storage and handling, waste disposal and food cost in excess of 0.10 to 0.15 per meal served.

New evaluation methods such as doubly labeled water, have made it possible to accurately measure the energy expenditure needs of children. Results of these studies show the established energy needs for children are overstated by at least 25%. Fontvielle Goran Davis The percentage of children who are overweight has more than doubled since 1970.

Proposed Solution:

95% of American children are enrolled in school. Most eat at least one or two meals a day at school.

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Estimate of Economic Impacts (Quantified Benefits and Costs if possible / Qualified description as needed):

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