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The United States House of Representatives
Committee on Agriculture
1300 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C.

RE: Casey's General Stores, Inc.'s Support of the Nunn
Amendment to HR8467

Dear Chairman, Ranking Member and Members of the Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Casey's General Stores, Inc. ("Casey's") in support of the Nunn Amendment #44 to the Farm Food and National Security Act of 2024 ("Farm Bill").

Casey's is headquartered in Ankeny, Iowa. What started off as a single store is now a multistate convenience store chain with over 2,600 stores across 17 states employing approximately 45,000 people. Over 50% of our stores are in towns of 5,000 or less and 25% of our stores are in towns of 5,000 to 20,000 people. Our stores are famous for selling not only traditional grocery items, but also hot and prepared foods.

With Casey's significant presence in rural towns and cities throughout the Midwest, we understand the important role convenience stores and other small format retailers play in providing food to low-income families through the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program ("SNAP"). For this reason, Casey's is very supportive of the Nunn Amendment #44, which would remove the outdated, cumbersome hot food restrictions for SNAP purchases. SNAP was in its early stages nearly 50 years ago when Americans were preparing more meals in their homes, so Congress restricted the purchase of hot foods with SNAP dollars. However, Americans' shopping and eating habits have shifted since that time amongst all social economic classes.

Today most Americans relish the flexibility to purchase hot meals, such as a rotisserie chicken, or at Casey's a breakfast sandwich, because consumers want convenient and faster meal preparation as they juggle multiple responsibilities. Low-income Americans who depend on SNAP need that type of flexibility as well. Being able to purchase hot foods will give SNAP participants more choices when shopping for food. Removing the hot food restriction is a commonsense update to modernize the program.

Most notably, Casey's has seen first-hand how selling hot foods helps us better serve our SNAP customers when the U.S. Department of Agriculture grants hot foods waivers in locations tragically impacted by natural disasters. This week, the town of Greenfield, Iowa was devastated by a tornado. There is a Casey's in Greenfield and our store associates are doing everything they can to assist with the needs of the community. If hot foods were allowed, we could provide our SNAP customers with a warm meal today, instead of having to wait for these waivers.

For these reasons, we strongly support Nunn Amendment, #44, and thank you in advance for your consideration and your work on all the important issues contained in the Farm Bill.

Very truly yours,

Douglas M. Beech
Sr. Assistant General Counsel/Director of Government Relations