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Coronavirus Bill: Urgent Needs for Hungry Texans and Food Banks

Austin, TX – Over the weekend the Senate and White House continued to negotiate a stimulus package that will both stabilize the economy and provide direct aid to individuals and families during the COVID-19 public health and economic crisis. Negotiations over SNAP and USDA food commodity provisions continue.

We urge Senators Cruz and Cornyn to ensure the Senate Coronavirus stimulus bill includes the following provisions:

1. Elimination of paperwork requirements for food bank distribution of USDA commodities to struggling Americans. **This is critical to ensure we can get food to our communities while ensuring the health and safety of our staff, volunteers, and clients**
2. \$700 million in additional funds for USDA food commodities to meet increased demand at food banks
3. 15% increase in the maximum SNAP benefit to help the poorest and most vulnerable Texans during this time

“We desperately need the flexibility and funds in this legislation to meet the increased need in our communities during this unprecedented health and economic crisis,” said Celia Cole, CEO of Feeding Texas. “We call on the Administration, Senators Cruz and Cornyn, and every member of Congress to respond swiftly and forcefully to ensure the health and well-being of every American during this time.”

Feeding Texas leads a unified effort for a hunger-free Texas.

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