

Washington, DC – Congressman Steve King (R-IA) released the following statement today in support of Congressman Tim Huelskamp (R-KS) issuing the Nutrition Nanny challenge to top USDA officials to "embrace the calorie limits and diet restrictions associated with the new mandates." On Monday, the USDA Deputy Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services Dr. Janey Thorton, the official responsible for implementing the new school lunch mandates, [blogged in response](#) to increasing criticism over the USDA's call for parents to replicate meals that their children are being forced to eat in school cafeterias at home.

"My legislation, the "[No Hungry Kids Act](#)", was introduced in direct response to the USDA and Secretary Vilsack's directive to put every child on a diet," said King. "The USDA's school lunch requirements are only hindering, not helping, the growth of our school children. This kind of overregulation- rationing food, limiting meat consumption and putting every child on a diet- is the outcome of an ever expanding nanny state.

I support this challenge from Congressman Huelskamp to USDA employees. I too, ask that the USDA have its cafeteria meet the same standards as the 100,000 school districts that they have demanded change their menus and see how just how far 850 calories can take them."

To learn more about the lunch standards and the reaction from students and parents around the nation, visit

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