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STATE OF ILLINOIS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SPRINGFIELD 62706

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RICHARD B. OGILVIE
GOVERNOR

January 28, 1970

The President
White House
Washington, D. C.

My Dear Mr. President:

The State of Illinois faces an immediate crisis in its free school lunch program. The funds allocated to us for federal programs of support and assistance in providing free or reduced price lunches to needy school children will be fully obligated in the next few weeks. Illinois' own program of providing 15¢ for every free lunch to a needy child will not be enough to keep the program going. I believe the situation is desperate. Child feeding programs throughout the State that have rapidly expanded in response to the promise of federal and state assistance for this critical program will be severely cut back or eliminated. This must not be allowed to happen.

Assuming no further increase in the number of free and reduced price lunches served, Illinois will require an additional \$535,000 of Section 11, National School Lunch Act, funds and an additional \$3 million of Section 32 funds. Furthermore I understand our basic school lunch program, financed under Section 4 of the National School Lunch Act, will have its funds exhausted in May, requiring more than \$500,000 to complete the year. I believe the assumption of no further program growth is unrealistic. It is probable that our needs will be greater than I have indicated.

I urge you to authorize additional allocations to Illinois so that needy children may continue to be fed. While I understand and fully support your need to hold down outlays in this inflationary period, I would hope this program has high enough priority to receive your support, while compensating reductions in outlays may be made in other program areas.

Sincerely,

Richard B. Ogilvie
Richard B. Ogilvie
Governor

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