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### Letter to a New Jersey restaurant

Florence P. Dwyer

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[REDACTED]

September 30, 1968

[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Ryder:

Thank you for your September 23 letter objecting to the distribution of Food Stamps to striking workers.

As you know, the House amended the Food Stamp Authorization Act to specifically ban food stamp distribution to strikers. The Senate version of the legislation, however, was handled as a routine renewal, and did not include such an amendment. In Conference Committee, the Conferees agreed to delete the House amendment, and agreed to leave such distribution to the discretion of the administrators of the program. A motion was made on the floor of the House when the Conference report was up for approval to recommit the bill, with instructions to the Conferees to include the amendment specifically banning distribution to strikers. The recommitment was defeated, however, in order to enact this legislation.

I voted against recommitment for two reasons. First, present law is silent on this specific point, and there is no requirement that administrators of the program authorize the sale of Food Stamps to striking workers. In fact, determination for eligibility for food stamps is made on the local level, by the local welfare officials, and is based on whether there are any liquid assets held by the individual -- striker or otherwise -- who is applying for Food Stamps. Second, I felt that, this late in the session, recommitting the bill would, quite probably, kill the bill and make very strongly that the Food Stamp Program has benefitted far more individuals than have exploited the program.

I am delighted to inform you that the Conferees on the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act, S. 698, today agreed to a very broad provision which I sponsored requiring periodic review by Congressional committees not only on future government programs,

(which the Senate version provided for) but of virtually all past, present and future grant-in-aid programs which do not have specific termination dates. As an original sponsor of such legislation to provide review, I am delighted at what I consider a tremendous success.

Thank you very much for taking an interest in these two matters, and I hope you will continue to give me the benefit of your thinking.

Very sincerely,

FLORENCE P. DWYER  
Member of Congress

FPD:B