

# News Release



**Bread for the World**

*Seeking Justice. Ending Hunger.*

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## **Bread for the World Applauds the FRESH Act**

WASHINGTON, DC—"The FRESH Act is the most comprehensive, forward-thinking farm bill reform proposal to date," said Rev. David Beckmann, president of Bread for the World. "Senators Lugar and Lautenberg and other cosponsors of the FRESH Act have withstood pressure from entrenched special interests and introduced a bold alternative to an inequitable commodity payment system that is stuck in Depression-era logic."

"Our country needs a fresh, new approach to the farm bill, one that helps people who need it the most—U.S. farmers of modest means, struggling rural communities, hungry people and farmers in developing countries. The FRESH Act addresses these needs.

"The demand for reform is mounting from all sides. Both Republicans and Democrats have signed onto the FRESH Act. Members of Congress and President Bush have taken the pro-reform position on Title I. Progressive and conservative media have publicly stated their opposition to the current farm payment system. A wide range of public interest groups—from Bread for the World to Environmental Defense to Taxpayers for Common Sense—agree that addressing inequities in the farm bill is the right thing to do.

"When the Senate Agriculture Committee votes on the farm bill this week, they must put first the good of all Americans—not just a privileged few. This is a justice issue and a moral issue."

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*Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. By changing policies, programs and conditions that allow hunger and poverty to persist, we provide help and opportunity far beyond the communities in which we live.*