

Lugar-Casey Global Food Security Act (S. 384)

Basic bill information

- **Title:** A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2010 through 2014 to provide assistance to foreign countries to promote food security, to stimulate rural economies, and to improve emergency response to food crises, to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and for other purposes.
- **Bill Summary:** <http://lugar.senate.gov/food/pdf/LugarCaseySummary.pdf>
- **Text of Bill:** <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c111:S.384>:
- **Latest Bill Action:** (5/13/09) Placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar until General Orders. Calendar N. 60
- **Original Cosponsors:** Lugar and Casey (2/5/09)
- **Other Cosponsors:** Begich, Burris, Cardin, Collins, Durbin, Harkin, Johnson, Kerry, Landrieu
- **Related Bill:** H.R. 3077
- **Congressional Budget Office Cost Estimate:**
<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/101xx/doc10105/s384.pdf>
- All of the above information and more can be found at www.thomas.gov

Concerns about and Support for the Bill and the US's Approach to Global Food Security and links to further information

Although, many people praise Senators Casey and Lugar for recognizing a need for agricultural investment in approaching global food security, there are conflicting views about the approach used. Many are concerned that the Lugar-Casey bill, which mandates GM crop research, will ultimately fail to alleviate global hunger and will instead result in more profits for large agribusiness.

Below are several reports, testimonies, and organizations with opinions on the current bill and on the best ways to approach global hunger:

- Food First: Institute for Food and Development Policy put together a policy brief voicing concerns with the proposed legislation, particularly the mandate for increased GM crop research and a call for a top-down technological approach to food insecurity based on incomprehensive data.
Policy Brief No. 18: Why the Lugar-Casey Global Food Security Act will Fail to Curb Hunger:
http://www.foodfirst.org/files/pdf/PB_18_Lugar-Casey_Full_15Apr09.pdf
- Opening Statements and Testimonies from the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee Hearing on "Alleviating Global Hunger: Challenges and Opportunities for U.S. Leadership:"
<http://foreign.senate.gov/hearings/2009/hrg090324a.html>
- Credo Action has a petition for opposing the Lugar-Casey bill:
http://act.credoaction.com/campaign/casey_lugar_gmo/?r=4176&id=4894-2079274-S5P8Gix
- Friends of the Earth International and the Center for Food Safety put out a report in February 2009 "Who Benefits from GM Crops? Feeding the Biotech Giants, Not the World's Poor"
<http://www.foei.org/en/publications/pdfs/gmcrops2009full.pdf>
- Oxfam supports the bill: <http://us.oneworld.net/article/357670-praise-us-bill-address-global-food-security>
- The ONE campaign supports the bill: <http://www.one.org/blog/category/lugar-casey-bill/>
- GMWatch opposes the bill:
http://www.gmwatch.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=11285:senators-forcing-flawed-gmos-on-developing-world
- The US Working Group on the Food Crisis is an ad hoc group of organizations from around the US, representing various sectors of the food system, including anti-hunger, family farm, community food security, environmental, international aid, labor, food justice, consumer, and other groups, advocating for a whole-scale change to the worldwide food system. <http://usfoodcrisisgroup.org/>