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Central Illinois Foodbank Statement on the 2018 Farm Bill

Attributed to Pam Molitoris, Executive Director

December 21, 2018 – Springfield – “Yesterday, the President signed into law H.R. 2, the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018. Also known as the 2018 Farm Bill, the legislation funds critical programs nationwide that address hunger and food production. Central Illinois Foodbank commends Congress for writing a bipartisan bill that protects and strengthens important nutrition programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). These programs are critical resources for our community members who are food insecure and will help the Foodbank put more meals on the table for families next year.”

“The Farm Bill provides certainty for our nation’s growers and producers that programs they rely on to provide food assistance or crop support in times of need will continue to serve as a resource to our community. The bill protects and preserves nutrition programs such as TEFAP and SNAP. For the over 100,000 individuals who need food assistance in central and southern Illinois, this delivers welcome peace of mind.”

“In addition to protecting SNAP, the legislation increases funding for critical programs like TEFAP, which helps our food bank provide healthy food to support people facing hunger. This will help provide a steady source of nutritious meals to over 100,000 individuals in central and southern Illinois who don’t know where their next meal will come from.”

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About Central Illinois Foodbank

Central Illinois Foodbank, established in 1982, distributes 9 million pounds of food annually to over 160 food pantries, soup kitchens, residential programs and after-school programs in a 21 county region. Central Illinois Foodbank is a member of Feeding America, the nation’s largest hunger relief organization. The mission of the Foodbank is to provide food, and develop awareness of and creative solutions for food insecurity.