



American Society for Nutrition
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Society for
Nutrition Education
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Academy of Nutrition
and Dietetics

2023 Farm Bill Priority – Dietary Reference Intakes

As organizations committed to science, science based dietary guidelines, and food and nutrition security, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND), American Society for Nutrition (ASN), Institute of Food Technologists (IFT), and Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior (SNEB) urge you to invest in ongoing updates to the Dietary Reference Intakes (DRIs).

DRIs are the standard for nutrient recommendations, and are essential to nutrition policy, functioning as the scientific backbone to the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* and federal feeding programs. DRIs are a set of quantitative nutrient reference values used to plan and assess nutrient intakes of a country's population.

Funding for DRI development and reviews are provided by several federal agencies, including the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Although DRIs are foundational to the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans*, the Nutrition Facts Label, and other federal nutrition policies and programs, there is no dedicated funding stream or statutory requirement for updating DRIs. For decades, there have only been a few DRI updates, and this has been dependent on sporadically available funding support provided by Congress to federal agencies. Today, many nutrient DRIs are outdated or have yet to be developed.

AND, ASN, IFT, and SNEB recommend that Congress provide USDA with mandatory funding to support a regular schedule of DRI development and updates, carried out by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM). **A dedicated \$10 million over the course of this Farm Bill cycle, 2024-2029, would support the development of several DRI reviews. Continuous mandatory funding for DRIs in each Farm Bill will ensure updated foundational science to support the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* and other programs that are built on these references.**

Funding foundational science in food and nutrition, like DRI development, is essential to ensuring accurate dietary recommendations and related federal, state, and local food & nutrition programs, to meet the needs of Americans.

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