

February 06, 2026

The Honorable Tom McClintock  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2256 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

RE: SUPPORT FOR H.R.1289, sponsored by representative Vern Buchanan, in Veterans Nutrition and Wellness Act of 2025

Dear Representative McClintock:

My name is Eileen Kearney and I am a Clinical Nutrition student at University of California Davis, who resides in your district. I am writing to you about an issue of concern and importance to me.

I urge you to support federal bill H.R. 1289. This bill will provide a comprehensive program with physical resources for eating healthfully for veterans. Implementing the Food Is Medicine program into the Department of Veterans Affairs would help address food insecurity and improve equitable access to medically tailored meals for those with chronic disease or other conditions such as, or due to pregnancy. By removing barriers to healthful foods, exacerbation of chronic illness can be reduced, and thus healthcare cost can be lowered.

The Department of Veterans Affairs does not yet offer strong nutrition and health support for veterans outside of counseling and the MOVE! Weight Management Program. Implementing the FIM program provides daily support and resources catered to individuals' needs, eliminating financial, accessibility, and physiologic ability barriers.

F.B 1289 would provide veterans with the equity they fought for and nutrition healthcare services they can use beyond a counseling or educational visit. By providing a FIM program, veterans can manage their health with more independence, and be provided with the necessary tools to honor the education and skills provided by dietitians and other providers.

For these reasons, I encourage your supportive vote on F.B. 1289.

Sincerely,

*Eileen Kearney*