



## Food for the Hungry Applauds House Passage of Global Fragility Act

**WASHINGTON, D.C. (May 20, 2019)** – Food for the Hungry, a Christian humanitarian organization seeking to end all forms of human poverty, applauds the strong bipartisan approval of the Global Fragility Act of 2019 (H.R. 2116) by the House of Representatives on May 20, 2019.

This timely legislation comes at a moment when the world is witnessing the largest forced displacement crisis in history due to violent conflict, with a record 68.5 million people currently displaced.

The bipartisan Global Fragility Act (GFA) would require the U.S. government, in coordination with global civil society, to develop a novel, innovative 10-year Global Fragility Initiative. This whole-of-government strategy would improve the capacity of the United States government to identify and address causes of violence in fragile regions around the world.

According to Food for the Hungry's Senior Director of Relief and Humanitarian Affairs, Shep Owen, "Food for the Hungry is witnessing first hand unprecedented displacement due to conflict in places where we serve like South Sudan and Bangladesh. We stand with families suffering from the consequences of violent conflict, and remain committed to helping alleviate their plight. Passage of the Global Fragility Act will strengthen the U.S. government's efforts to support communities at greatest risk, and work to prevent conflict and displacement in the first place."

H.R. 2116 was introduced in April by Representatives Eliot Engel (D-NY), Mike McCaul (R-TX), Adam Smith (D-WA), Ann Wagner (R-MO), Bill Keating (D-MA), Francis Rooney (R-FL), and others. It passed the House Foreign Affairs Committee unanimously in April. The bill has strong bipartisan support with 16 cosponsors.

A broad coalition of over 55 leading international humanitarian, peacebuilding, development, and faith-based organizations endorse this legislation.

The House voted by voice on Monday evening to pass the bill. A related bill awaits committee consideration in the Senate, S. 727.

### **ABOUT FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY**

**Food for the Hungry is a Christian humanitarian organization** ending all forms of human poverty by providing life-changing development programs, disaster relief, and advocacy. Since 1971, Food for the Hungry has been going into the world's hardest places with an exit strategy: to respond to human suffering and graduate communities of extreme poverty into self-sustainability, all within a decade. By creating context-specific solutions in education, agriculture, health, livelihood, clean water, and disaster risk reduction, the nonprofit focuses on transformational development, investing in children as the key to lift entire communities out of



## **FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY**

poverty. With 98% of staff working in their country of origin, Food for the Hungry works side-by-side with local leaders, churches, and families to implement innovative solutions. The organization currently serves more than 14 million people in over 20 countries worldwide. For more information, follow @food4thehungry or visit [www.fh.org](http://www.fh.org).

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