

November 20, 2017

Mr. John D. Sheehan  
Director, Subsistence Customer Operations and  
Chairman, Joint Subsistence Policy Board  
DLA Troop Support  
700 Robbins Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19111

Re: Solicitation Number RFI to INDUSTRY, “RFI to Industry to assess the impact of reducing and eliminating certain ingredients from food products”

Dear Mr. Sheehan,

The undersigned organizations are writing in regards to the above referenced notice published on the Federal Business Opportunities website on November 14, 2017. We appreciate the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) issuing this Request for Information (RFI) to ask for more information from the affected industry.

We share the Joint Subsistence Policy Board’s (JSPB) commitment to providing food for the military that is wholesome and sufficient to meet the nutritional needs of the warfighter. In order to provide the best information possible to help JSPB and DLA fulfill this mission, we are respectfully requesting an extension of an additional 60 days, to February 12, 2018, to provide comments and other critical information to the RFI.

We request an extension to this comment period so that stakeholders in the impacted industry have adequate time to evaluate the RFI and compile data and other critical information in support of comments. The questions raised in the Notice are complex. Assessing the impacts for industry on cost, product availability, manufacturing processes, and production capabilities, as well as providing DLA with the best available science on the nutritional qualities of these ingredients will require extensive consultation with the broad spectrum of affected stakeholders. We believe that the current 30-day comment period is insufficient to provide the degree of thoughtful commentary needed to address the numerous questions and issues presented by the Agency in this Notice.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Nancy Kohler Wilkins at the Grocery Manufacturers Association at [nkohler@gmaonline.org](mailto:nkohler@gmaonline.org) or (202) 639-5945.

We look forward to receiving a response to our request for an extension no later than November 27, 2017.

Sincerely,

American Soybean Association  
Grocery Manufacturers Association

Institute of Shortening and Edible Oils  
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives  
National Corn Growers Association  
National Oilseed Processors Association  
Soyfoods Association of North America