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House of Representatives  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

June 14, 2022

The Hon. Stan Saylor  
Majority Chairman, House Appropriations Committee  
245 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

The Hon. Matt Bradford  
Minority Chairman, House Appropriations Committee  
Room 512-E Main Capitol  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: BABY FORMULA SHORTAGE

Dear Chairman Saylor and Chairman Bradford,

As you are aware, thousands of families across the Commonwealth are struggling to locate and purchase much-needed baby formula. That is why I appreciated the \$8.25 million investment to the Pennsylvania manufacturer MyHeart to aid in baby formula production. There is, however, more that can and should be done immediately to support those most urgently in need.

Infants in Pennsylvania who are fully or partially-formula fed and whose families are participants in the Commonwealth's Women, Infant & Children (WIC) program are some of those in the most urgent need. According to Bureau of WIC data, there are approx. 35,000 WIC-participating infants on baby formula.

There are limited retailers who participate in WIC so participating families in need of formula are not able to secure it, putting the lives of infants at risk. This is not acceptable to me and should not be acceptable to you or any Pennsylvanian.

I am writing to respectfully request your **immediate action to address this public health crisis** by allocating ARPA funds to the Department of Health's Bureau of WIC so that the families of infants using formula can receive vouchers that can be utilized at any retailer that sells formula. At the very least, these vouchers could be accepted today by any Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participating.

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I am drafting legislation to address this urgent need. The Commonwealth is sitting on over \$2 billion in ARPA funds. Providing critical and life-sustaining aid to these families should happen immediately and I would appreciate your prompt attention to this most urgent request.

This action can and should be taken now. These families cannot wait for action as part of the overall budget process.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Deasy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

DAN DEASY  
State Representative

cc: The Hon. Joanna McClinton  
Democratic Leader  
The Hon. Kathy Rapp  
Majority Chairman, House Health Committee  
The Hon. Dan Frankel  
Minority Chairman, House Health Committee