

## **Appendix B - Policy Committee Priorities List 2021 - 2023**

To ensure greater health equity for our most at-risk populations, the ASPHN Policy committee will energetically work to address systemic racism, along with its destructive influence upon the social determinants of health (SDOH). SDOH are those conditions in which our most vulnerable populations are born, live, worship, play and work. The SDOHs have a direct effect on an individual/community's access to nourishing food, quality healthcare, education, safe housing, and jobs that pay a living wage. Most importantly, SDOH diametrically shape a wide range of public health, performance, and quality-of-life outcomes.

Across America, poor communities and communities of color have endured decades of deleterious health outcomes, escalating rates of illness and disease, decreased life expectancy, and disheartening health disparities. At the same time, systematic racism and structural discrimination are directly associated with the proliferation of health disparities, high morbidity and mortality rates, chronic illnesses, food insecurity, and many of the other nutrition-related health inequities.

The food, nutrition and health related issues listed below in **Section 1** and **Section 2** will be used to help guide the Policy Committee in its decision-making process on how best to utilize the committee's efforts and resources via PETAL:

- Prioritize Health Equity
- Engage the Community
- Target Health Disparities
- Act on Data
- Learn and Improve

The issues posted here are not listed in order of priority because issues will vary and shift dependent upon the political focus over time.

### **Section 1: Legislation/Regulations/Programs**

- Block grants
  - Farm to School Grant Program
  - Maternal and Child Health Title V Block grant
  - Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant
- Dietary Guidelines for Americans (HHS&USDA)
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
  - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
    - Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity (DNPAO) CDC funding
    - Prevention and Public Health Fund (PPHF) CDC
    - Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans
  - Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
  - National Institutes of Health (NIH)
  - Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP)
    - Healthy People Initiative – HP2030

- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Nutrition Assistance Programs
  - Farm Bill - Title IV Nutrition Programs
    - Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
    - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
    - The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)
    - Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)
    - Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Program (FMLFPP)
    - The Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program
  - Economic Research Service (ERS)
  - Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)
    - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
    - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – Education (SNAP Ed)
    - The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)
    - Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP)
    - Team Nutrition
    - Community Food Systems
    - After School Snack Program (ASSP)
    - Special Milk Program (SMP)
    - Child Nutrition Reauthorization/ Child Nutrition Programs/
      - Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
      - National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
      - School Breakfast Program (SBP)
      - Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
      - Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
      - Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program (FF&VP)
    - Food Distribution Programs
      - Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations
      - Commodity Supplemental Food Program
      - Emergency Food Assistance Program
      - USDA Foods in Schools
      - Food Safety
    - Center for Nutrition Policy & Promotion (CNPP)
      - Nutrition Evidence Systematic Review
      - Choose My Plate
      - Dietary Guidelines for Americans
    - Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HFFI)
- U.S. Department of Transportation
  - Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) -Safe Routes to School
- Older Americans Act - Meals on Wheels America

## **Section 2: Topics**

- Social Determinants of Health
    - Systemic/systematic racism
    - Structural discrimination
    - Health Equity
    - Racial Equity
  - Breastfeeding
  - Budget/Appropriations
  - Food Service Guidelines
  - Menu Labeling
  - Nutrition Labeling
  - Promoting healthy weight, eating habits and lifestyle
  - Schools and Childcare Settings
    - School meals and nutrition standards
  - Food Environment
    - Ingredients
    - Retail food
    - Restaurant meals
  - Public Health Nutrition Education and Information
    - Media campaigns
    - Nutrition labeling (front and back)
    - Food Marketing and Marketing to Children
  - Sustainable Food Systems
  - Nutrition Research
  - Healthcare Systems
  - Physical Activity
  - Dietary Patterns
  - Nutrition Standards
  - Nutrients of interest (e.g. sodium, sugar, SSB, fats, water)
  - Food Insecurity
  - Nutrition and Food System Impacted by social and environmental food disasters e.g. COVID-19 and its impact on food insecurity
  - Collaboration with Partner Organizations, e.g. WIC, NANA/CSPI, AND, USBC, ASNNA, etc.
  - Root cause of poor nutrition such as economic opportunity, paid maternity leave, etc.
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## Appendix E: Policy Committee Qualifying Questions

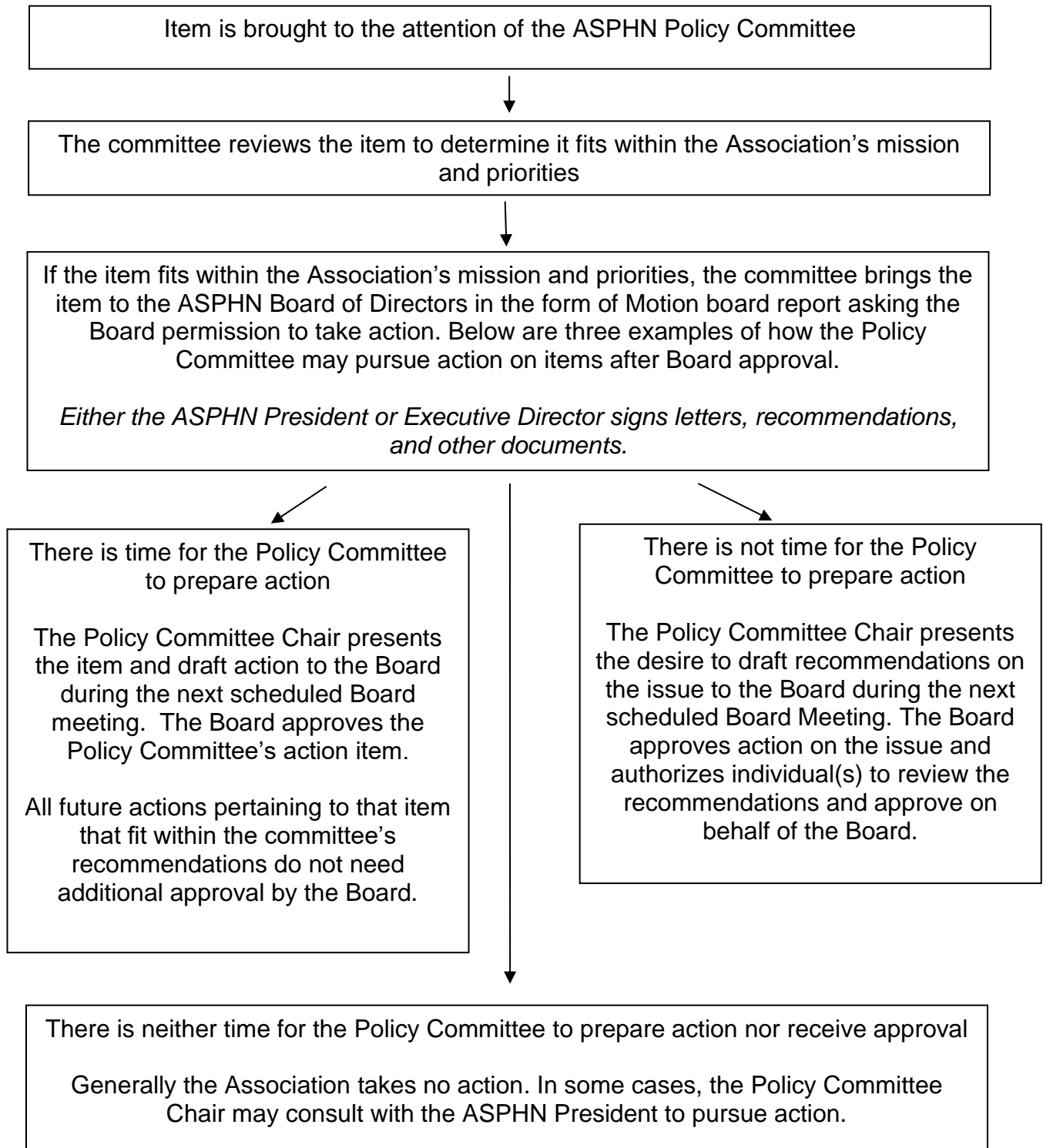
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The list of questions below are to be used by the Committee for guidance when making decisions on whether or not to respond to sign-on requests, submit comments, issue action alerts and so forth. If needed, the Committee should also refer to the decision-making schematic in **Appendix F**.

1. Does the issue/action align with the ASPHN Strategic Plan?
2. Does the issue/action align with the Committee's Priority Watch List?
3. Does the committee have the capacity to react to the issue/action?
  - a. Capacity as it pertains to:
    - Timing: Is there enough time for the committee to make an informed decision and/or write a commentary.
    - Expertise: Within the committee, is there the expertise and resources to respond effectively? If not, is there time to seek expertise from within the membership to respond effectively?
4. Does the issue/action provide **more** support for communities who have been marginalized
5. Will the issue address systemic issues like structural racism, decrease health disparities, and/or have a positive impact on the social determinants of health?
6. Will the issue/action have a significant effect on public health nutrition workforce?
7. Will the issue/action have a significant effect on environmental changes that could affect improvement in conditions related to poor diet and physical inactivity?
8. Will the issue/action affect the ability to develop a multi-disciplinary, culturally competent public health nutrition workforce?
9. Will the issue/action put the community at the center?
10. Will the issue/action affect fruit and vegetable consumption?
11. Will the issue/action impact physical activity rates?
12. Will the issue/action affect incidence and duration of breastfeeding?
13. Will the issue/action impact food insecurity or hunger?
14. Will the issue/action stimulate or support surveillance systems related to public health nutrition issues?
15. Will the issue/action affect available resources for public health nutrition leadership?
16. Will the issue/action enhance states abilities to effectively address nutrition and physical activity issues?

**Appendix F: Decision-making schematic:**

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Approved by the ASPHN BOD on 11/13/2020