

103D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 628

To amend the National School Lunch Act to restore food supplement benefits under the dependent care food program to adolescent youth.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 26, 1993

Mr. OWENS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the National School Lunch Act to restore food supplement benefits under the dependent care food program to adolescent youth.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Adolescent Nutritional
5 Equity Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds that—

8 (1) a nutritionally balanced diet is essential to
9 good health;

1 (2) children in their years of growth are espe-
2 cially vulnerable to nutritionally affected health
3 risks;

4 (3) children experience a significant growth
5 spurt in their adolescent years in which height typi-
6 cally may increase by 20 percent and body weight
7 may double;

8 (4) the years between 13 and 18 are the prin-
9 cipal ages in which children change from teenagers
10 to adults both physically and mentally;

11 (5) due to rapid growth, nutrition requirements
12 increase during the adolescent years;

13 (6) inadequate nutrition in the adolescent years
14 may lead to ill health in later life, and may increase
15 the risk of contracting the degenerative diseases of
16 aging;

17 (7) lower income adolescents are at greater risk
18 of not receiving proper nutrition;

19 (8) food assistance provided through the de-
20 pendent care food program to after-school programs
21 for adolescents can play a critical role in ensuring
22 that the nutritional needs of these young people are
23 fully met; and

1 (9) eligibility for assistance under the depend-
2 ent care food program for adolescents between the
3 ages of 13 and 18 should be restored.

4 **SEC. 3. RESTORATION OF ADOLESCENT ELIGIBILITY.**

5 (a) Section 17(a) of the National School Lunch
6 Act (42 U.S.C. 1766(a)) is amended in the fourth sen-
7 tence—

8 (1) by striking “12” and inserting “18”; and

9 (2) by striking “children of migrant workers if
10 15 years of age or less or for children with handi-
11 caps” and inserting “children with disabilities”.

12 (b) Section 17A(b) of the National School Lunch
13 Act (42 U.S.C. 1766a(b)) is amended—

14 (1) in paragraph (1) by striking “not more than
15 12 years of age” and inserting “18 years of age or
16 less”; and

17 (2) in paragraph (2) by striking “in the case of
18 children of migrant workers or children with handi-
19 caps, who are not more than 15 years of age” and
20 inserting “children with disabilities of any age”.

21 **SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

22 This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall
23 take effect October 1, 1993.

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