

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1755

To amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to provide grants to support farm-to-cafeteria projects.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 17, 2003

Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. SPECTER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to provide grants to support farm-to-cafeteria projects.

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 “Farm-to-Cafeteria
5 Projects Act of 2003”.

6 **SEC. 2. GRANTS TO SUPPORT FARM-TO-CAFETERIA**
7 **PROJECTS.**

8 Section 12 of the Richard B. Russell National School
9 Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1760) is amended by adding at the
10 end the following:

1 “(q) GRANTS TO SUPPORT FARM-TO-CAFETERIA
2 PROJECTS.—

3 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To improve access to local
4 foods in schools and institutions receiving funds
5 under this Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966
6 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.) (other than section 17 of
7 that Act (42 U.S.C. 1786)), the Secretary shall pro-
8 vide competitive grants to nonprofit entities and
9 educational institutions to establish and carry out
10 farm-to-cafeteria projects that may include the pur-
11 chase of equipment, the procurement of foods, and
12 the provision of training and education activities.

13 “(2) PREFERENCE FOR CERTAIN PROJECTS.—
14 In selecting farm-to-cafeteria projects to receive as-
15 sistance under this subsection, the Secretary shall
16 give preference to projects designed to—

17 “(A) procure local foods from small- and
18 medium-sized farms for the provision of foods
19 for school meals;

20 “(B) support nutrition education activities
21 or curriculum planning that incorporates the
22 participation of school children in farm and ag-
23 riculture education projects; and

24 “(C) develop a sustained commitment to
25 farm-to-cafeteria projects in the community by

1 linking schools, agricultural producers, parents,
2 and other community stakeholders.

3 “(3) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND RELATED IN-
4 FORMATION.—

5 “(A) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—In car-
6 rying out this subsection, the Secretary may
7 provide technical assistance regarding farm-to-
8 cafeteria projects, processes, and development
9 to an entity seeking the assistance.

10 “(B) SHARING OF INFORMATION.—The
11 Secretary may provide for the sharing of infor-
12 mation concerning farm-to-cafeteria projects
13 and issues among and between government, pri-
14 vate for-profit and nonprofit groups, and the
15 public through publications, conferences, and
16 other appropriate means.

17 “(4) GRANTS.—

18 “(A) IN GENERAL.—From amounts made
19 available to carry out this subsection, the Sec-
20 retary shall make grants to assist private non-
21 profit entities and educational institutions to es-
22 tablish and carry out farm-to-cafeteria projects.

23 “(B) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—The maximum
24 amount of a grant provided to an entity under
25 this subsection shall be \$100,000.

1 “(C) MATCHING FUNDS REQUIREMENTS.—

2 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share
3 of the cost of establishing or carrying out
4 a farm-to-cafeteria project that receives as-
5 sistance under this subsection may not ex-
6 ceed 75 percent of the cost of the project
7 during the term of the grant, as deter-
8 mined by the Secretary.

9 “(ii) FORM.—In providing the non-
10 Federal share of the cost of carrying out a
11 farm-to-cafeteria project, the grantee shall
12 provide the share through a payment in
13 cash or in kind, fairly evaluated, including
14 facilities, equipment, or services.

15 “(iii) SOURCE.—An entity may pro-
16 vide the non-Federal share through State
17 government, local government, or private
18 sources.

19 “(D) ADMINISTRATION.—

20 “(i) SINGLE GRANT.—A farm-to-cafe-
21 teria project may be supported by only a
22 single grant under this subsection.

23 “(ii) TERM.—The term of a grant
24 made under this subsection may not exceed
25 3 years.

1 “(5) EVALUATION.—Not later than January
2 30, 2008, the Secretary shall—

3 “(A) provide for the evaluation of the
4 projects funded under this subsection; and

5 “(B) submit to the Committee on Edu-
6 cation and the Workforce of the House of Rep-
7 resentatives and the Committee on Agriculture,
8 Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report
9 on the results of the evaluation.

10 “(6) FUNDING.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—On October 1, 2002,
12 and on each October 1 thereafter through Octo-
13 ber 1, 2007, out of any funds in the Treasury
14 not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the
15 Treasury shall transfer to the Secretary of Ag-
16 riculture to carry out this subsection
17 \$10,000,000, to remain available until ex-
18 pended.

19 “(B) RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE.—The
20 Secretary shall be entitled to receive, shall ac-
21 cept, and shall use to carry out this subsection
22 the funds transferred under subparagraph (A),
23 without further appropriation.”.

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