

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1938

To reduce hunger in the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 19, 2007

Mr. McGOVERN (for himself and Mrs. EMERSON) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To reduce hunger in the United States.

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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Hunger-Free Communities Act of 2007”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Findings.
Sec. 3. Definitions.

TITLE I—NATIONAL COMMITMENT TO END HUNGER

See. 101. Hunger reports.

TITLE II—STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY EFFORTS

See. 121. Hunger-free communities collaborative grants.

See. 122. Hunger-free communities infrastructure grants.
See. 123. Hunger-free communities training and technical assistance grants.
See. 124. Report.
See. 125. Authorization of appropriations.

1 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

2 Congress finds that—

3 (1)(A) at the 1996 World Food Summit, the
4 United States, along with 185 other countries,
5 pledged to reduce the number of undernourished
6 people by half by 2015; and

7 (B) as a result of that pledge, the Department
8 of Health and Human Services adopted the Healthy
9 People 2010 goal to cut food insecurity in half by
10 2010, and in doing so reduce hunger;

11 (2) national nutrition programs are among the
12 fastest, most direct ways to efficiently and effectively
13 prevent hunger, reduce food insecurity, and improve
14 nutrition among the populations targeted by a pro-
15 gram;

16 (3) in 2001, food banks, food pantries, soup
17 kitchens, and emergency shelters helped to feed
18 more than 23,000,000 low-income people; and

19 (4) community-based organizations and char-
20 ities can help—

21 (A) play an important role in preventing
22 and reducing hunger;

23 (B) measure community food security;

9 SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

10 In this Act:

11 (1) DOMESTIC HUNGER GOAL.—The term “do-
12 mestic hunger goal” means—

13 (A) the goal of reducing hunger in the
14 United States to at or below 2 percent by 2010;
15 or

16 (B) the goal of reducing food insecurity in
17 the United States to at or below 6 percent by
18 2010.

4 (4) HUNGER-FREE COMMUNITIES GOAL.—The
5 term “hunger-free communities goal” means any of
6 the 14 goals described in the H. Con. Res. 302
7 (102nd Congress).

10 **TITLE I—NATIONAL**
11 **COMMITMENT TO END HUNGER**

12 SEC. 101. HUNGER REPORTS.

13 (a) STUDY.—

14 (1) TIMELINE.—

15 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year
16 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
17 retary shall conduct a study of major matters
18 relating to the problem of hunger in the United
19 States, as determined by the Secretary.

20 (B) UPDATE.—Not later than 5 years
21 after the date on which the study under sub-
22 paragraph (A) is conducted, the Secretary shall
23 update the study.

4 (A) data on hunger and food insecurity in
5 the United States;

6 (B) measures carried out during the pre-
7 vious year by Federal, State, and local govern-
8 ments to achieve domestic hunger goals and
9 hunger-free communities goals;

10 (C) measures that could be carried out by
11 Federal, State, and local governments to
12 achieve domestic hunger goals and hunger-free
13 communities goals; and

14 (D) the impact of hunger and household
15 food insecurity on obesity, in the context of pov-
16 erty and the provision of food assistance.

17 (b) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Secretary shall de-
18 velop recommendations on—

19 (1) removing obstacles to achieving domestic
20 hunger goals and hunger-free communities goals;
21 and

22 (2) otherwise reducing domestic hunger.

23 (c) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to the
24 President and Congress—

(1) not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, a report that contains—

3 (A) a detailed statement of the results of
4 the study, or the most recent update to the
5 study, conducted under subsection (a)(1); and

6 (B) the most recent recommendations of
7 the Secretary under subsection (b); and

11 **TITLE II—STRENGTHENING** 12 **COMMUNITY EFFORTS**

13 SEC. 121. HUNGER-FREE COMMUNITIES COLLABORATIVE
14 GRANTS.

15 (a) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In this sec-
16 tion, the term “eligible entity” means a public food pro-
17 gram service provider or a nonprofit organization, includ-
18 ing but not limited to an emergency feeding organization,
19 that demonstrates the organization has collaborated, or
20 will collaborate, with 1 or more local partner organizations
21 to achieve at least 1 hunger-free communities goal.

22 (b) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall use not
24 more than 50 percent of any funds made available
25 under section 125 to make grants to eligible entities

1 to pay the Federal share of the costs of an activity
2 described in subsection (d).

3 (2) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of
4 the cost of carrying out an activity under this sec-
5 tion shall not exceed 80 percent.

6 (3) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—

7 (A) CALCULATION.—The non-Federal
8 share of the cost of an activity under this sec-
9 tion may be provided in cash or in kind, fairly
10 evaluated, including facilities, equipment, or
11 services.

12 (B) SOURCES.—Any entity may provide
13 the non-Federal share of the cost of an activity
14 under this section through a State government,
15 a local government, or a private source.

16 (c) APPLICATION.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—To receive a grant under
18 this section, an eligible entity shall submit an appli-
19 cation to the Secretary at the time and in the man-
20 ner and accompanied by any information the Sec-
21 retary may require.

22 (2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted
23 under paragraph (1) shall—

24 (A) identify any activity described in sub-
25 section (d) that the grant will be used to fund;

1 (B) describe the means by which an activ-
2 ity identified under subparagraph (A) will re-
3 duce hunger in the community of the eligible
4 entity;

5 (C) list any partner organizations of the el-
6 igible entity that will participate in an activity
7 funded by the grant;

8 (D) describe any agreement between a
9 partner organization and the eligible entity nec-
10 essary to carry out an activity funded by the
11 grant; and

12 (E) if an assessment described in sub-
13 section (d)(1) has been performed, include—

14 (i) a summary of that assessment;
15 and

16 (ii) information regarding the means
17 by which the grant will help reduce hunger
18 in the community of the eligible entity.

22 (A) demonstrate in the application of the
23 eligible entity that the eligible entity makes col-
24 laborative efforts to reduce hunger in the com-
25 munity of the eligible entity; and

(B)(i) serve a predominantly rural and geographically underserved area;

(ii) serve communities in which the rates of food insecurity, hunger, poverty, or unemployment are demonstrably higher than national average rates;

(iii) provide evidence of long-term efforts to reduce hunger in the community;

(iv) provide evidence of public support for the efforts of the eligible entity; or

(v) demonstrate in the application of the eligible entity a commitment to achieving more than 1 hunger-free communities goal.

(d) USE OF FUNDS.—

15 (1) ASSESSMENT OF HUNGER IN THE COMMU-
16 NITY.—

22 (B) ASSESSMENT.—The assessment re-
23 ferred to in subparagraph (A) shall include—

(B) developing new resources and strategies to help reduce hunger in the community;

3 (C) establishing a program to achieve a
4 hunger-free communities goal in the commu-
5 nity, including—

(i) a program to prevent, monitor, and treat children in the community experiencing hunger or poor nutrition; or

9 (ii) a program to provide information
10 to people in the community on hunger, do-
11 mestic hunger goals, and hunger-free com-
12 munities goals; and

13 (D) establishing a program to provide food
14 and nutrition services as part of a coordinated
15 community-based comprehensive service.

16 SEC. 122. HUNGER-FREE COMMUNITIES INFRASTRUCTURE

17 GRANTS.

18 (a) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In this sec-
19 tion, the term “eligible entity” means an emergency feed-
20 ing organization (as defined in section 201A(4) of the
21 Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C.
22 7501(4))).

23 (b) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall use not
25 more than 40 percent of any funds made available

1 under section 125 to make grants to eligible entities
2 to pay the Federal share of the costs of an activity
3 described in subsection (d).

4 (2) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of
5 the cost of carrying out an activity under this sec-
6 tion shall not exceed 80 percent.

7 (c) APPLICATION.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—To receive a grant under
9 this section, an eligible entity shall submit an appli-
10 cation to the Secretary at the time and in the man-
11 ner and accompanied by any information the Sec-
12 retary may require.

13 (2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted
14 under paragraph (1) shall—

15 (A) identify any activity described in sub-
16 section (d) that the grant will be used to fund;
17 and

18 (B) describe the means by which an activ-
19 ity identified under subparagraph (A) will re-
20 duce hunger in the community of the eligible
21 entity.

22 (3) PRIORITY.—In making grants under this
23 section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible
24 entities the applications of which demonstrate 2 or
25 more of the following:

1 (A) The eligible entity serves a predomi-
2 nantly rural and geographically underserved
3 area.

4 (B) The eligible entity serves a community
5 in which the rates of food insecurity, hunger,
6 poverty, or unemployment are demonstrably
7 higher than national average rates.

8 (C) The eligible entity serves a community
9 that has carried out long-term efforts to reduce
10 hunger in the community.

11 (D) The eligible entity serves a community
12 that provides public support for the efforts of
13 the eligible entity.

14 (E) The eligible entity is committed to
15 achieving more than 1 hunger-free communities
16 goal.

17 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity shall use a
18 grant received under this section for any fiscal year to
19 carry out activities of the eligible entity, including—

20 (1) constructing, expanding, or repairing a fa-
21 cility or equipment to support hunger relief agencies
22 in the community;

23 (2) assisting an emergency feeding organization
24 in the community in obtaining locally-produced
25 produce and protein products; and

3 SEC. 123. HUNGER-FREE COMMUNITIES TRAINING AND
4 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS.

5 (a) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In this sec-
6 tion, the term “eligible entity” means a national or re-
7 gional nonprofit organization that carries out an activity
8 described in subsection (d).

9 (b) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

18 (c) APPLICATION.—

24 (2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted
25 under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) demonstrate that the eligible entity does not operate for profit;

(B) describe any national or regional training program carried out by the eligible entity, including a description of each region served by the eligible entity;

(C) describe any national or regional technical assistance provided by the eligible entity, including a description of each region served by the eligible entity; and

(D) describe the means by which each organization served by the eligible entity—

(i) works to achieve a domestic hunger goal;

(ii) works to achieve a hunger-free communities goal; or

(iii) used a grant received by the organisation under section 121 or 122

23 (A) The eligible entity serves a predomi-
24 nantly rural and geographically underserved
25 area.

5 (C) The eligible entity serves a region that
6 has carried out long-term efforts to reduce hun-
7 ger in the region.

11 (E) The eligible entity is committed to
12 achieving more than 1 hunger-free communities
13 goal.

14 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity shall use a
15 grant received under this section for any fiscal year to
16 carry out national or regional training and technical as-
17 sistance for organizations that—

18 (1) work to achieve a domestic hunger goal;

19 (2) work to achieve a hunger-free communities

20 goal; or

21 (3) receive a grant under section 121 or 122.

22 SEC. 124, REPORT.

23 Not later than September 30, 2011, the Secretary
24 shall submit to Congress a report describing—

11 SEC. 125. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

12 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
13 this title \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008
14 through 2013.