

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3805

To amend the Food Stamp Act of 1977 to provide to States an option  
to provide food assistance to foster community reintegration.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 10, 2007

Mr. ELLISON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Agriculture

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## A BILL

To amend the Food Stamp Act of 1977 to provide to States  
an option to provide food assistance to foster community  
reintegration.

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 “Food Stamp Equality  
5       Act of 2007”.

6       **SEC. 2. STATE OPTION TO PROVIDE FOOD ASSISTANCE TO**  
7               **FOSTER COMMUNITY REINTEGRATION.**

8       (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6 of the Food Stamp Act  
9       of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2015) is amended by adding at the end  
10      the following:

1       “(p) STATE OPTION TO PROVIDE FOOD ASSISTANCE  
2 TO FOSTER COMMUNITY REINTEGRATION.—

3               “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section  
4 115(a) of the Personal Responsibility and Work Op-  
5 portunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (21 U.S.C.  
6 862a(a)), except as provided in paragraph (2), sec-  
7 tion 115(a) of that Act shall not apply in the case  
8 of benefits under the food stamp program or any  
9 State program carried out under this Act.

10              “(2) STATE OPTIONS.—

11                      “(A) LIMITATION ON RECEIPT OF FOOD  
12 STAMP BENEFITS.—

13                              “(i) IN GENERAL.—A State may elect  
14 to exempt any or all individuals domiciled  
15 in the State from paragraph (1), or limit  
16 the period for which that paragraph shall  
17 apply, by specific reference in a law en-  
18 acted on or after the date of enactment of  
19 this subsection.

20                              “(ii) STATE LAW.—

21                                      “(I) ENACTED BEFORE EFFEC-  
22 TIVE DATE.—If a State law described  
23 in clause (i) is enacted before the ef-  
24 fective date of this subsection, clause  
25 (i) shall apply to conduct occurring

1 after August 22, 1996, to the extent  
2 provided in the State law.

3 “(II) ENACTED ON OR AFTER  
4 EFFECTIVE DATE.—If a State law de-  
5 scribed in clause (i) is enacted on or  
6 after the effective date of this sub-  
7 section, clause (i) shall apply to con-  
8 duct occurring on or after the date of  
9 enactment of that law to the extent  
10 provided in the State law.

11 “(B) CONTINUATION OF ALLOWING RE-  
12 CEIPT OF FOOD STAMP BENEFITS.—In the case  
13 of a State that prior to the effective date of this  
14 subsection made an election under section  
15 115(d)(1) of the Personal Responsibility and  
16 Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996  
17 (21 U.S.C. 862a(d)(1)), the State may continue  
18 to apply that election in accordance with that  
19 law.”.

20 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
21 subsection (a) takes effect on the date that is 180 days  
22 after the date of enactment of this Act.

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