

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2805

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to increase the amount made available to purchase commodities for the emergency food assistance program in fiscal year 2010.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 19, 2009

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 Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to increase the amount made available to purchase commodities for the emergency food assistance program in fiscal year 2010.

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. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds that—

5 (1) more than 1 in 7 households in the United
6 States struggled to find enough to eat during 2008;

7 (2) poverty is the primary cause of food insecu-
8 rity and hunger in the United States;

1 (3) the annual report of the Economic Research
2 Service of the Department of Agriculture on house-
3 hold food security in the United States found that
4 in 2008, 17,000,000 households were food insecure,
5 an increase from 13,000,000 households in 2007;

6 (4) the term “low food security” means people
7 being unable to consistently get enough to eat and
8 the term “very low food security” means people
9 being hungry at various times over the year and
10 being unable to eat because of lack of money to pur-
11 chase food;

12 (5) the 17,000,000 food insecure households in
13 the United States are home to 49,000,000 Ameri-
14 cans, of whom—

15 (A) 17,000,000 are children, among whom
16 nearly 500,000 in the developmentally critical
17 years under the age of 6 are going hungry; and

18 (B) 12,000,000 adults and 5,200,000 chil-
19 dren reported experiencing severe hunger, pos-
20 sibly going days without eating;

21 (6) good nutrition is necessary for learning and
22 academic achievement; and

23 (7) Black and Hispanic households experienced
24 food insecurity at far higher rates (25.7 percent in
25 the case of Black households and 26.9 percent in the

1 case of Hispanic households) than the national aver-
2 age.

3 **SEC. 2. AVAILABILITY OF COMMODITIES FOR THE EMER-**
4 **GENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

5 Section 27(a)(2) of the Food and Nutrition Act of
6 2009 (7 U.S.C. 2036(a)(2)) is amended—

7 (1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at
8 the end;

9 (2) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as sub-
10 subparagraph (E);

11 (3) in subparagraph (E) (as so redesignated)—

12 (A) by striking “each of fiscal years 2010
13 through 2012” and inserting “fiscal year
14 2012”; and

15 (B) by striking “subparagraph (B)” and
16 inserting “subparagraph (D)”; and

17 (4) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the fol-
18 lowing:

19 “(C) for fiscal year 2010, \$500,000,000;

20 “(D) for fiscal year 2011, \$250,000,000,

21 as adjusted in accordance with subparagraph

22 (E); and”.

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