111TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

S. 3124

To amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to improve child health and nutrition and reduce administrative burdens for child care sponsors and providers.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

March 16, 2010

Ms. Klobuchar (for herself and Mr. Harkin) 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 improve child health and nutrition and reduce administrative burdens for child care sponsors and providers.
 - 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 "Healthy Living Starts
 - 5 Early Act of 2010".

TITLE I—IMPROVING CHILD 1 HEALTH AND NUTRITION 2 3 SEC. 101. NUTRITION AND WELLNESS GOALS FOR MEALS 4 SERVED THROUGH THE CHILD AND ADULT 5 CARE FOOD PROGRAM. 6 Section 17 of the Richard B. Russell National School 7 Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1766) is amended— 8 (1) in subsection (a), by striking "(a) Grant 9 AUTHORITY" and all that follows through the end of 10 paragraph (1) and inserting the following: 11 "(a) Program Purpose, Grant Authority and Institution Eligibility.— "(1) IN GENERAL.— 13 14 "(A) Program purpose.— "(i) FINDINGS.—Congress 15 finds 16 that— 17 "(I) eating habits and other 18 wellness-related behavior habits are 19 established early in life; and "(II) good nutrition and wellness 20 21 important contributors to the 22 overall health of young children and 23 essential to cognitive development. 24 "(ii) Purpose.—The purpose of the 25 program authorized by this section is to

1	provide aid to child care institutions and
2	family or group day care homes for the
3	provision of nutritious foods that con-
4	tribute to the wellness, healthy growth, and
5	development of young children.
6	"(B) Grant authority.—The Secretary
7	may carry out a program to assist States
8	through grants-in-aid and other means to ini-
9	tiate and maintain nonprofit food service pro-
10	grams for children in institutions providing
11	child care.";
12	(2) by striking subsection (g) and inserting the
13	following:
14	"(g) Nutritional Requirements for Meals and
15	SNACKS SERVED IN INSTITUTIONS AND FAMILY OR
16	GROUP DAY CARE HOMES.—
17	"(1) Definition of Dietary Guidelines.—
18	In this subsection, the term 'Dietary Guidelines'
19	means the Dietary Guidelines for Americans pub-
20	lished under section 301 of the National Nutrition
21	Monitoring and Related Research Act of 1990 (7
22	U.S.C. 5341).
23	"(2) Nutritional requirements.—
24	"(A) In general.—Except as provided in
25	subparagraph (C), reimbursable meals and

1	snacks served by institutions and family or
2	group day care homes participating in the pro-
3	gram under this section shall consist of a com-
4	bination of foods that meet minimum nutri-
5	tional requirements prescribed by the Secretary
6	on the basis of tested nutritional research.
7	"(B) Conformity with the dietary
8	GUIDELINES AND AUTHORITATIVE SCIENCE.—
9	"(i) In General.—Not less fre-
10	quently than once every 10 years, the Sec-
11	retary shall review and, as appropriate, up-
12	date requirements for meals served under
13	the program under this section to ensure
14	that the meals—
15	"(I) are consistent with the goals
16	of the most recent Dietary Guidelines;
17	and
18	"(II) promote the health of the
19	population served by the program au-
20	thorized under this section, as indi-
21	cated by the most recent relevant nu-
22	trition science and appropriate au-
23	thoritative scientific agency and orga-
24	nization recommendations.

1 "(ii) Cost review.—The review re2 quired under clause (i) shall include a re3 view of the cost to child care centers and
4 group or family day care homes resulting
5 from updated requirements for meals and
6 snacks served under the program under
7 this section.

"(iii) Regulations.—Not later than 18 months after receipt of recommendations for meal pattern improvements from the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences, the Secretary shall promulgate proposed regulations to update the meal patterns for meals and snacks served under the program under this section.

"(C) Exceptions.—

"(i) Special dietary needs.—The minimum nutritional requirements prescribed under subparagraph (A) do not prohibit institutions and family or group day care homes from substituting foods to accommodate the medical or other special dietary needs of individual children.

1 "(ii) EXEMPT INSTITUTIONS.—The
2 Secretary may elect to waive all or part of
3 the requirements of this subsection for
4 emergency shelters and adult day care cen5 ters participating in the program under
6 this section.

"(3) MEAL SERVICE.—Institutions and family day care homes shall ensure that reimbursable meal service contributes to the development and socialization of enrolled children by providing that food is not used as a punishment or reward.

"(4) Fluid Milk.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—If an institution or family or group day care home provides fluid milk as part of a reimbursable meal or supplement, the institution or family or group day care home shall provide the milk in accordance with the most recent version of the Dietary Guidelines.

"(B) MILK SUBSTITUTES.—In the case of children who cannot consume fluid milk due to medical or other special dietary needs other than a disability, an institution or family or group day care home may substitute for the

1	fluid milk required in meals served, a nondairy
2	beverage that—
3	"(i) is nutritionally equivalent to fluid
4	milk; and
5	"(ii) meets nutritional standards es-
6	tablished by the Secretary, including,
7	among other requirements established by
8	the Secretary, fortification of calcium, pro-
9	tein, vitamin A, and vitamin D to levels
10	found in cow's milk.
11	"(C) Approval.—
12	"(i) In general.—A substitution au-
13	thorized under subparagraph (B) may be
14	made—
15	"(I) at the discretion of and on
16	approval by the participating day care
17	institution; and
18	"(II) if the substitution is re-
19	quested by written statement of a
20	medical authority, or by the parent or
21	legal guardian of the child, that iden-
22	tifies the medical or other special die-
23	tary need that restricts the diet of the
24	child.

1	"(ii) Exception.—An institution or
2	family or group day care home shall not be
3	required under this paragraph to provide
4	beverages other than beverages the State
5	has identified as acceptable substitutes.
6	"(D) Excess expenses borne by insti-
7	TUTION.—A participating institution or family
8	or group day care home shall be responsible for
9	any expenses that—
10	"(i) are incurred by the institution or
11	family or group day care home to provide
12	substitutions under this paragraph; and
13	"(ii) are in excess of expenses covered
14	under reimbursements under this Act.
15	"(5) Nondiscrimination policy.—No phys-
16	ical segregation or other discrimination against any
17	child shall be made because of the inability of the
18	child to pay, nor shall there be any overt identifica-
19	tion of any such child by special tokens or tickets,
20	different meals or meal service, announced or pub-
21	lished lists of names, or other means.
22	"(6) USE OF ABUNDANT AND DONATED
23	FOODS.—To the maximum extent practicable, each
24	institution shall use in its food service foods that
25	are—

1	"(A) designated from time to time by the
2	Secretary as being in abundance, either nation-
3	ally or in the food service area; or
4	"(B) donated by the Secretary."; and
5	(3) by adding at the end the following:
6	"(u) Promoting Health and Wellness in Child
7	Care.—
8	"(1) Physical activity and electronic
9	MEDIA USE.—The Secretary shall encourage partici-
10	pating child care centers and family or group day
11	care homes—
12	"(A) to provide to all children under the
13	supervision of the participating child care cen-
14	ters and family or group day care homes daily
15	opportunities for structured and unstructured
16	age-appropriate moderate-intensity to vigorous-
17	intensity physical activity; and
18	"(B) to limit among children under the su-
19	pervision of the participating child care centers
20	and family or group day care homes the use of
21	electronic media to an appropriate level.
22	"(2) Water consumption.—Participating
23	child care centers and family or group day care
24	homes shall make available to children, as nutrition-
25	ally appropriate, water as an acceptable fluid for

1	consumption throughout the day, including at meal
2	times.
3	"(3) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND GUID-
4	ANCE.—
5	"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
6	provide technical assistance to institutions par-
7	ticipating in the program under this section to
8	assist participating child care centers and fam-
9	ily or group day care homes in complying with
10	the nutritional and wellness requirements pre-
11	scribed by the Secretary in accordance with this
12	subsection and subsection (g).
13	"(B) GUIDANCE.—Not later than January
14	1, 2011, the Secretary shall issue guidance to
15	States and institutions to encourage partici-
16	pating child care centers and family or group
17	day care homes serving meals and snacks under
18	this section to—
19	"(i) include foods that are rec-
20	ommended for increased serving consump-
21	tion in amounts recommended by the most
22	recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans
23	published under section 301 of the Na-
24	tional Nutrition Monitoring and Related
25	Research Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5341), in-

1	cluding fresh, canned, frozen, or dried
2	whole fruits and vegetables, whole grain
3	products, lean meat products, and low-fat
4	and non-fat dairy products; and
5	"(ii) reduce sedentary activities and
6	provide opportunities for regular physical
7	activity in quantities recommended by the
8	most recent Dietary Guidelines for Ameri-
9	cans described in clause (i).
10	"(C) Nutrition.—Technical assistance
11	relating to the nutritional requirements of this
12	subsection and subsection (g) shall include—
13	"(i) nutrition education, including
14	education that emphasizes the relationship
15	between nutrition, physical activity, and
16	health;
17	"(ii) menu planning;
18	"(iii) interpretation of nutrition labels;
19	and
20	"(iv) food preparation and purchasing
21	guidance to produce meals and snacks that
22	are—
23	"(I) consistent with the goals of
24	the most recent Dietary Guidelines;
25	and

1	"(II) promote the health of the
2	population served by the program
3	under this section, as recommended
4	by authoritative scientific organiza-
5	tions.
6	"(D) Physical activity.—Technical as-
7	sistance relating to the physical activity require-
8	ments of this subsection shall include—
9	"(i) education on the importance of
10	regular physical activity to overall health
11	and well being; and
12	"(ii) sharing of best practices for
13	physical activity plans in child care centers
14	and homes as recommended by authori-
15	tative scientific organizations.
16	"(E) ELECTRONIC MEDIA USE.—Technical
17	assistance relating to the electronic media use
18	requirements of this subsection shall include—
19	"(i) education on the health impacts
20	of overuse of and overexposure to elec-
21	tronic media by children; and
22	"(ii) sharing of best practices for the
23	development of daily activity plans that
24	limit use of electronic media.

"(F) MINIMUM ASSISTANCE.—At a minimum, the technical assistance required under this paragraph shall include a handbook, developed by the Secretary in coordination with the Secretary for Health and Human Services, that includes recommendations, guidelines, and best practices for participating institutions and family or group day care homes that are consistent with the nutrition, physical activity, and wellness requirements and recommendations of this subsection.

"(G) ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE.—In addition to the requirements of this paragraph, the Secretary shall develop and provide such appropriate training and education materials, guidance, and technical assistance as the Secretary considers to be necessary to comply with the nutritional and wellness requirements of this subsection and subsection (g).

"(H) Funding.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—On October 1, 2009, and on each October 1 thereafter through October 1, 2013, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury

1	shall transfer to the Secretary to provide
2	technical assistance under this subsection
3	\$3,000,000, to remain available until ex-
4	pended.
5	"(ii) Receipt and acceptance.—
6	The Secretary shall be entitled to receive,
7	shall accept, and shall use to carry out this
8	subsection the funds transferred under
9	clause (i), without further appropriation.".
10	SEC. 102. INTERAGENCY COORDINATION TO PROMOTE
11	HEALTH AND WELLNESS IN CHILD CARE LI-
12	CENSING.
13	The Secretary of Agriculture shall coordinate with
14	the Secretary of Health and Human Services to encourage
15	State licensing agencies to include nutrition and wellness
16	standards within State licensing standards that ensure, to
17	the maximum extent practicable, that licensed child care
18	centers and family or group day care homes—
19	(1) provide to all children under the supervision
20	of the child care centers and family or group day
21	care homes daily opportunities for age-appropriate
22	moderate-intensity to vigorous-intensity physical ac-
23	tivity;
24	(2) limit among children under the supervision
25	of the child care centers and family or group day

1	care homes the use of electronic media and the
2	quantity of time spent in sedentary activity to an ap-
3	propriate level;
4	(3) serve meals and snacks that are consistent
5	with the child and adult care food program estab-
6	lished under section 17 of the Richard B. Russell
7	National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1766); and
8	(4) promote such other nutrition and wellness
9	goals as the Secretaries determine to be necessary.
10	SEC. 103. STUDY ON NUTRITION AND WELLNESS QUALITY
11	OF CHILD CARE SETTINGS.
12	(a) In General.—Not less than 4 years after the
13	date of enactment of this Act, and not less frequently than
14	once every 5 years thereafter, the Secretary of Agriculture
15	shall submit to Congress a report based on—
16	(1) a nationally representative study of child
17	care centers and family or group day care homes
18	that—
19	(A) is designed in consultation with the
20	Secretary of Health and Human Services; and
21	(B) includes an assessment of—
22	(i) the nutritional quality of all foods
23	provided to children in child care settings
24	as compared to the recommendations in
25	most recent Dietary Guidelines for Ameri-

1	cans published under section 301 of the
2	National Nutrition Monitoring and Related
3	Research Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5341);
4	(ii) the quantity and type of opportu-
5	nities for physical activity provided to chil-
6	dren in child care settings; and
7	(iii) the quantity of time spent by chil-
8	dren in child care settings in sedentary ac-
9	tivities; and
10	(2) an assessment of the barriers to and
11	facilitators for—
12	(A) providing foods to children in child
13	care settings that meet the recommendations in
14	the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Ameri-
15	cans published under section 301 of the Na-
16	tional Nutrition Monitoring and Related Re-
17	search Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5341);
18	(B) providing the appropriate quantity and
19	type of opportunities for physical activity for
20	children in child care settings; and
21	(C) participation by child care centers and
22	family or group day care homes in the child and
23	adult care food program established under sec-
24	tion 17 of the Richard B. Russell National
25	School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1766).

1	(b) Funding.—
2	(1) In general.—On October 1, 2010, out of
3	any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appro-
4	priated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer
5	to the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out this sec-
6	tion \$5,000,000, to remain available until expended.
7	(2) RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE.—The Sec-
8	retary of Agriculture shall be entitled to receive,
9	shall accept, and shall use to carry out this section
10	the funds transferred under paragraph (1), without
11	further appropriation.
12	TITLE II—REDUCING ADMINIS-
13	TRATIVE BURDENS FOR
14	CHILD CARE SPONSORS AND
15	PROVIDERS
16	SEC. 201. WORKING GROUP TO REDUCE PAPERWORK AND
17	IMPROVE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.
18	(a) Definitions.—In this section:
19	(1) Program.—The term "program" means
20	the child and adult care food program established
21	under section 17 of the Richard B. Russell National
22	School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1766).
23	(2) Secretary.—The term "Secretary" means

- 1 (b) Establishment.—The Secretary, in conjunction
- 2 with States and participating institutions, shall reconvene
- 3 a working group to continue to examine the feasibility of
- 4 reducing unnecessary or duplicative paperwork resulting
- 5 from regulations and recordkeeping requirements for
- 6 State agencies, institutions, family and group day care
- 7 homes, and sponsored centers participating in the pro-
- 8 gram.
- 9 (c) Duties.—At a minimum, the working group
- 10 shall—
- 11 (1) review and evaluate the recommendations,
- 12 guidance, and regulatory priorities developed and
- issued to comply with section 119(i) of the Child
- Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 (42)
- 15 U.S.C. 1766 note; Public Law 108–265); and
- 16 (2) examine additional paperwork and adminis-
- trative requirements that have been established since
- 18 February 23, 2007, that could be reduced or sim-
- 19 plified.
- 20 (d) Additional Duties.—In addition to, or oper-
- 21 ating concurrently with, the working group described in
- 22 subsection (b), the Secretary may, if determined necessary
- 23 by the Secretary and in conjunction with States and insti-
- 24 tutions participating in the program, establish 1 or more

1	working groups to examine any aspect of administration	
2	of the program.	
3	(e) Report.—Not later than 4 years after the date	
4	of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to	
5	Congress a report that describes the actions that have	
6	been taken to carry out this section, including—	
7	(1) actions taken to address administrative and	
8	paperwork burdens identified as a result of compli-	
9	ance with section 119(i) of the Child Nutrition and	
10	WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C. 1766	
11	note; Public Law 108–265);	
12	(2) administrative and paperwork burdens iden-	
13	tified as a result of compliance with section 119(i)	
14	of that Act for which no regulatory action or policy	
15	guidance has been taken;	
16	(3) additional steps that the Secretary is taking	
17	or plans to take to address any administrative and	
18	paperwork burdens identified under subsection $(e)(2)$	
19	and paragraph (2), including—	
20	(A) new or updated regulations, policy,	
21	guidance, or technical assistance; and	
22	(B) a timeframe for the completion of	
23	those steps; and	
24	(4) recommendations to Congress for modifica-	
25	tions to existing statutory authorities needed to ad-	

1	dress identified administrative and paperwork bur-
2	dens.
3	SEC. 202. RENEWAL OF APPLICATION MATERIALS AND PER
4	MANENT OPERATING AGREEMENTS.
5	(a) Permanent Operating Agreements.—Sec-
6	tion 17(d)(1) of the Richard B. Russell National School
7	Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1766(d)(1)) is amended by adding
8	at the end the following:
9	"(E) PERMANENT OPERATING AGREE-
10	MENTS.—
11	"(i) In general.—Subject to clauses
12	(ii) and (iii), to participate in the child and
13	adult care food program, an institution
14	that meets the conditions of eligibility de-
15	scribed in this subsection shall be required
16	to enter into a permanent agreement with
17	the applicable State agency.
18	"(ii) Amendments.—A permanent
19	agreement described in clause (i) may be
20	amended as necessary to ensure that the
21	institution is in compliance with all re-
22	quirements established in this section or by
23	the Secretary.
24	"(iii) TERMINATION.—A permanent
25	agreement described in clause (i)—

1	"(I) may be terminated for con-
2	venience by the institution and State
3	agency that is a party to the perma-
4	nent agreement; and
5	"(II) shall be terminated—
6	"(aa) for cause by the appli-
7	cable State agency in accordance
8	with paragraph (5); or
9	"(bb) on termination of par-
10	ticipation of the institution in the
11	child and adult care food pro-
12	gram.".
13	(b) Applications.—Section 17(d) of the Richard B.
14	Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1766(d))
15	is amended by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the
16	following:
17	"(2) Program applications.—
18	"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
19	develop a policy under which each institution
20	providing child care that participates in the
21	program under this section shall—
22	"(i) submit to the State agency an ini-
23	tial application to participate in the pro-
24	gram that meets all requirements estab-
25	lished by the Secretary by regulation;

1	"(ii) annually confirm to the State
2	agency that the institution, and any facili-
3	ties of the institution in which the program
4	is operated by a sponsoring organization, is
5	in compliance with subsection (a)(5); and
6	"(iii) annually submit to the State
7	agency any additional information nec-
8	essary to confirm that the institution is in
9	compliance with all other requirements to
10	participate in the program, as established
11	by the Secretary by regulation.
12	"(B) REVIEWS.—The Secretary shall de-
13	velop a policy under which each sponsoring or-
14	ganization participating in the program shall
15	conduct—
16	"(i) periodic unannounced site visits
17	at not less than 3-year intervals to spon-
18	sored child care centers and family or
19	group day care homes to identify and pre-
20	vent management deficiencies and fraud
21	and abuse under the program;
22	"(ii) at least 1 scheduled site visit at
23	not less than 3-year intervals to sponsoring
24	organizations and nonsponsored child care
25	centers to identify and prevent manage-

1	ment deficiencies and fraud and abuse
2	under the program and to improve pro-
3	gram operations; and
4	"(iii) periodic site visits to private in-
5	stitutions that the State agency determines
6	have a high probability of program
7	abuse.".
8	(c) AGREEMENTS.—Section 17(j)(1) of the Richard
9	B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C.
10	1766(j)(1)) is amended—
11	(1) by striking "may" and inserting "shall";
12	(2) by striking "family or group day care" the
13	first place it appears; and
14	(3) by inserting "or sponsored day care cen-
15	ters" before "participating".
16	SEC. 203. TRANSMISSION OF INCOME INFORMATION BY
17	SPONSORED FAMILY OR GROUP DAY CARE
18	HOMES.
19	Section 17(f)(3)(A)(iii)(III) of the Richard B. Russell
20	National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C.
21	1766(f)(3)(A)(iii)(III)) is amended by adding at the end
22	the following:
23	"(dd) Transmission of in-
24	COME INFORMATION BY SPON-
25	SORED FAMILY OR GROUP DAY

CARE HOMES.—If a family or 1 2 group day care home elects to be 3 provided reimbursement factors 4 described in subclause (II), the 5 family or group day care home 6 may assist in the transmission of 7 necessary household income in-8 formation to the family or group 9 day care home sponsoring organi-10 zation in accordance with the pol-11 icy described in item (ee). 12 "(ee) Policy.—The Sec-13 retary shall develop a policy 14 under which a sponsored family 15 or group day care home described in item (dd) may, under terms 16 17 and conditions specified by the 18 Secretary and with the written 19 consent of the parents or guard-20 ians of a child in a family or group day care home partici-21 22 pating in the program, assist in 23 the transmission of the income

information of the family to the

1	family or group day care home
2	sponsoring organization.".
3	SEC. 204. SIMPLIFYING AND ENHANCING ADMINISTRATIVE
4	PAYMENTS TO SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS.
5	Section 17(f)(3) of the Richard B. Russell National
6	School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1766(f)(3)) is amended by
7	striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:
8	"(B) Administrative funds.—
9	"(i) In general.—In addition to re-
10	imbursement factors described in subpara-
11	graph (A), a family or group day care
12	home sponsoring organization shall receive
13	reimbursement for the administrative ex-
14	penses of the sponsoring organization in an
15	amount that is not less than the product
16	obtained each month by multiplying—
17	"(I) the number of family and
18	group day care homes of the spon-
19	soring organization submitting a claim
20	for reimbursement during the month;
21	by
22	"(II) the appropriate administra-
23	tive rate determined by the Secretary.
24	"(ii) Annual adjustment.—The ad-
25	ministrative reimbursement levels specified

1	in clause (i) shall be adjusted July 1 of
2	each year to reflect changes in the Con-
3	sumer Price Index for All Urban Con-
4	sumers published by the Bureau of Labor
5	Statistics of the Department of Labor for
6	the most recent 12-month period for which
7	such data are available.
8	"(iii) Carryover funds.—The Sec-

"(iii) Carryover funds.—The Secretary shall develop procedures under which not more than 10 percent of the amount made available to sponsoring organizations under this section for administrative expenses for a fiscal year may remain available for obligation or expenditure in the succeeding fiscal year.

"(iv) RETURN TO SECRETARY.—Any amounts appropriated that are not obligated or expended during a fiscal year and are not carried over for the succeeding fiscal year under clause (iii) shall be returned to the Secretary.".

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