

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7142

To amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to establish a competitive grant program to enable States to purchase, customize, or repair vehicles with hot and cold food storage for delivering meals to older individuals through the Congregate Nutrition Program or the Home-Delivered Nutrition Program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 8, 2020

Mr. VELA (for himself, Mr. KATKO, and Mrs. MCBATH) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to establish a competitive grant program to enable States to purchase, customize, or repair vehicles with hot and cold food storage for delivering meals to older individuals through the Congregate Nutrition Program or the Home-Delivered Nutrition Program.

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 “Helping Our Most El-
5 derly secure Meals Act” or the “HOME Meals Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANTS FOR VEHICLES WITH HOT AND COLD FOOD**
2 **STORAGE FOR MEAL DELIVERY TO OLDER IN-**
3 **DIVIDUALS.**

4 Subpart 3 of part C of title III of the Older Ameri-
5 cans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030g–21 et seq.) is amend-
6 ed by adding at the end the following:

7 **“SEC. 340. GRANTS FOR VEHICLES WITH HOT AND COLD**
8 **FOOD STORAGE FOR MEAL DELIVERY.**

9 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Secretary shall
10 award grants in accordance with subsection (c) on a com-
11 petitive basis to States receiving a grant under section 331
12 or 336 to enable such States to provide direct funds to
13 area agencies on aging and local nutrition service pro-
14 viders to purchase, customize, or repair vehicles meeting
15 the requirement under subsection (b) to be used in deliv-
16 ering meals to older individuals through an existing and
17 eligible nutrition project supported under either such sec-
18 tion.

19 “(b) VEHICLE REQUIREMENT.—The requirement
20 under this subsection is that the vehicle has the capability
21 to safely store hot food and cold food, as determined by
22 the Assistant Secretary, while delivering meals.

23 “(c) APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS.—

24 “(1) APPLICATIONS.—

25 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A State receiving a
26 grant under section 331 or 336 that seeks a

1 grant under this section shall submit an appli-
2 cation to the Assistant Secretary at such time,
3 in such manner, and containing such informa-
4 tion as the Assistant Secretary may reasonably
5 require, including the demonstrations described
6 in subparagraph (B).

7 “(B) DEMONSTRATIONS.—An application
8 under this paragraph shall contain a dem-
9 onstration—

10 “(i) of how the State submitting the
11 application will use the grant to allow ex-
12 isting and eligible nutrition projects to en-
13 hance the delivery of services to older indi-
14 viduals with the greatest economic need
15 and older individuals with the greatest so-
16 cial need; and

17 “(ii) that the nutrition projects uti-
18 lizing the funds are in effect within the
19 State, on the date on which the State sub-
20 mits the application, to use vehicles meet-
21 ing the requirement under subsection (b)
22 to provide nutrition services under section
23 331 or 336.

24 “(2) SELECTION.—The Assistant Secretary, in
25 selecting States meeting the requirements under

1 paragraph (1) to receive a grant under this section,
2 shall give preference to—

3 “(A) States with a high percentage of indi-
4 viduals who are 60 years of age or older; and

5 “(B) States with a high rate of individuals
6 at or below the poverty line.

7 “(d) GRANT AMOUNT.—A grant awarded under this
8 section shall be for an amount that is equal to or less than
9 \$3,000,000.

10 “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
11 is authorized to be appropriated \$60,000,000 for each of
12 fiscal years 2020 through 2024 to carry out this section.”.

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