

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1170

To amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to improve the efficiency of summer meals.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 15, 2021

Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. SMITH, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. KING, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. PADILLA, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, and Mr. SANDERS) 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 the efficiency of summer meals.

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 “Summer Meals Act
5 of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN.**

2 (a) BETTER INTEGRATE SUMMER EDUCATION AND
3 SUMMER MEALS PROGRAM.—Section 13(a)(1)(A)(i) of
4 the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42
5 U.S.C. 1761(a)(1)(A)(i)) (relating to the definition of the
6 term “area in which poor economic conditions exist”) is
7 amended by striking “50 percent” each place it appears
8 and inserting “40 percent”.

9 (b) REDUCE RED TAPE FOR PUBLIC-PRIVATE PART-
10 NERSHIPS.—Section 13(a)(8) of the Richard B. Russell
11 National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1761(a)(8)) is
12 amended—

13 (1) by striking the paragraph designation and
14 heading and all that follows through “Except” and
15 inserting the following:

16 “(8) YEAR-ROUND MEAL SERVICE.—

17 “(A) SEAMLESS SUMMER OPTION FOR
18 SCHOOLS.—Except”; and

19 (2) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(B) YEAR-ROUND MEAL SERVICE FOR
21 OTHER SERVICE INSTITUTIONS.—Each service
22 institution (other than a service institution de-
23 scribed in subparagraph (A)), in addition to
24 being eligible for reimbursement for meals de-
25 scribed in subsection (b)(2) served during each
26 day of operation during the periods described in

1 subsection (c)(1), may be reimbursed for up to
2 1 meal and 1 snack per child served during
3 each day of operation during—

4 “(i) afterschool hours;

5 “(ii) weekends; and

6 “(iii) school holidays during the reg-
7 ular school calendar.”.

8 (c) IMPROVE NUTRITION IN UNDERSERVED, HARD-
9 TO-REACH AREAS.—Section 13(a) of the Richard B. Rus-
10 sell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1761(a)) is
11 amended—

12 (1) by striking paragraphs (9) and (10) and in-
13 serting the following:

14 “(9) IMPROVE NUTRITION IN UNDERSERVED,
15 HARD-TO-REACH AREAS.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the avail-
17 ability of appropriations provided in advance in
18 an appropriations Act specifically for the pur-
19 pose of carrying out this paragraph, the Sec-
20 retary shall award competitive grants to service
21 institutions selected by the Secretary to in-
22 crease participation in the program by children
23 who lack the ability to access a congregate feed-
24 ing site through—

1 “(i) innovative approaches to limited
2 transportation;

3 “(ii) mobile meal trucks; and

4 “(iii) any other method or approach
5 that does not require children to access a
6 congregate feeding site.

7 “(B) ELIGIBILITY.—To be selected to re-
8 ceive a grant under this paragraph, a service in-
9 stitution—

10 “(i) may be located in any State; and

11 “(ii) shall—

12 “(I) submit to the Secretary an
13 application at such time, in such man-
14 ner, and containing such information
15 as the Secretary may require;

16 “(II) meet criteria established by
17 the Secretary; and

18 “(III) agree to the terms and
19 conditions of the grant, as established
20 by the Secretary.

21 “(C) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants
22 under this paragraph, the Secretary shall give
23 priority to service institutions that plan—

24 “(i) to serve both breakfast and lunch;

25 or

1 “(ii) to serve lunch, a snack, and din-
2 ner.

3 “(D) TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT.—A serv-
4 ice institution that receives a grant under sub-
5 paragraph (A)(i) may use grant funds to pro-
6 vide reimbursement for travel.

7 “(E) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
8 TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated
9 to the Secretary to make competitive grants
10 under this paragraph \$10,000,000 for each fis-
11 cal year.”; and

12 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (11) and (12)
13 as paragraphs (10) and (11), respectively.

14 (d) THIRD MEAL.—Section 13(b)(2) of the Richard
15 B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C.
16 1761(b)(2)) is amended by striking “only serve lunch”
17 and all that follows through “migrant children may”.

18 (e) SUMMER MEAL SERVICE REIMBURSEMENT
19 AFTER EMERGENCIES AND DISASTERS.—Section 13 of
20 the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42
21 U.S.C. 1761) is amended by striking subsection (r) and
22 inserting the following:

23 “(r) SUMMER MEAL SERVICE REIMBURSEMENT
24 AFTER EMERGENCIES AND DISASTERS.—

1 “(1) DEFINITION OF AFFECTED AREA.—In this
2 subsection, the term ‘affected area’ means an area
3 for which—

4 “(A) the President has declared a major
5 disaster in accordance with section 401 of the
6 Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emer-
7 gency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170); or

8 “(B) the Governor of the State in which
9 the area is located has declared an emergency
10 or disaster under State law.

11 “(2) SUMMER MEAL REIMBURSEMENT.—In an
12 affected area, the Secretary shall, on request by a
13 State, reimburse a service institution for meals pro-
14 vided under this section to children that consume
15 the meals by a noncongregate method or approach.”.

16 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
17 13 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act
18 (42 U.S.C. 1761) is amended by adding at the end the
19 following:

20 “(s) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
21 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are nec-
22 essary to carry out this section for the period of fiscal
23 years 2021 through 2026.”.

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