To establish an Interagency Collaborative and Innovation Pilot Program to Address Hunger and Promote Access to Healthy Food Among Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES
JULY 18, 2023

Mr. CASEY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL
To establish an Interagency Collaborative and Innovation Pilot Program to Address Hunger and Promote Access to Healthy Food Among Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Tools for Ensuring Access to Meals Act” or the “TEAM Act”.
SEC. 2. INTERAGENCY COLLABORATIVE AND INNOVATION PILOT PROGRAM.

Section 201 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3011) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(h)(1) In this subsection:

“(A) The term ‘Center’ means the Research, Demonstration, and Evaluation Center for the Aging Network described in subsection (g).

“(B) The term ‘Director’ means the Director of the Center.

“(2) The Director shall establish, in fiscal year 2024, an Interagency Collaborative and Innovation Pilot Program to Address Hunger and Promote Access to Healthy Food Among Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities (referred to in this subsection as the ‘pilot program’).

“(3) The Director shall carry out the pilot program through the Center.

“(4) The Director shall carry out the pilot program to address hunger among, including promoting access to healthy food for, older individuals and adults with disabilities by—

“(A) implementing best practices for addressing food insecurity, including by promoting access to healthy, affordable, and local or regional food among older individuals and adults with disabilities;
“(B) seeking recommendations from Federal agencies about how to support interagency collaboration to address food insecurity;

“(C) implementing innovative practices to address food insecurity; and

“(D) evaluating the impact of subparagraphs (A) through (C) on addressing food insecurity.

“(5) In carrying out the pilot program, the Director shall provide funding for demonstration projects, evaluation, and research related to the activities referred to in paragraph (4).

“(6) In addition to any other funds appropriated for the Center, there is authorized to be appropriated for the Center, to carry out this subsection, $5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2024 through 2028. Funds appropriated under this paragraph shall remain available until expended.”.