

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4909

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to improve diet quality and nutrition security, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 26, 2023

Mr. GOTTHEIMER (for himself and Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to improve diet quality and nutrition security, and for other purposes.

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 “SNAP Nutrition Secu-
5 rity Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY.**

7 (a) DECLARATION OF POLICY.—Section 2 of the
8 Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011) is
9 amended by adding at the end the following: “Congress
10 recognizes that the supplemental nutrition assistance pro-

1 gram established under this Act reduces food insecurity
2 for tens of millions of households, yet more than
3 10,000,000 households still suffer from food insecurity,
4 according to the Department of Agriculture. Congress also
5 recognizes that, according to the Department of Agri-
6 culture, approximately half of all adults in the United
7 States (117,000,000 people) have 1 or more preventable
8 chronic diseases, many of which are related to poor quality
9 eating patterns. Accordingly, it is the policy of Congress
10 that the Department of Agriculture should administer the
11 supplemental nutrition assistance program in a manner
12 that will further reduce food insecurity, increase nutrition
13 security, and improve the diet quality for low-income peo-
14 ple in the United States, especially children. Food pro-
15 grams administered by the Department of Agriculture
16 should simultaneously combat food insufficiency and diet-
17 related chronic diseases, including obesity, diabetes, hyper-
18 tension, heart disease, and cancer, which cause immense
19 suffering, significantly increase already high health care
20 spending, increase poverty, and undermine military readi-
21 ness.”.

22 (b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 3 of the Food and Nutri-
23 tion Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012) is amended—

24 (1) by redesignating subsections (h) through
25 (k), (l), (m), and (n) through (v) as subsections (i)

1 through (l), (n), (o), and (q) through (y), respec-
2 tively;

3 (2) by inserting after subsection (g) the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(h) DIET QUALITY.—The term ‘diet quality’ means
6 the extent to which a set of foods aligns with key rec-
7 ommendations of the most recent Dietary Guidelines for
8 Americans published under section 301 of the National
9 Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Act of 1990
10 (7 U.S.C. 5341).”;

11 (3) by inserting after subsection (l) (as so re-
12 designated) the following:

13 “(m) FOOD SECURITY.—The term ‘food security’
14 means access by all people at all times to enough food
15 for an active, healthy life.”; and

16 (4) by inserting after subsection (o) (as so re-
17 designated) the following:

18 “(p) NUTRITION SECURITY.—The term ‘nutrition se-
19 curity’ means consistent and equitable access to healthy,
20 safe, affordable foods essential to optimal health and well-
21 being.”.

22 (c) DATA COLLECTION AND SHARING.—Section 9 of
23 the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2018) is
24 amended by adding at the end the following:

1 “(k) STORE-LEVEL DATA COLLECTION AND SHAR-
2 ING.—

3 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall collect
4 the data described in paragraph (2) from a suffi-
5 cient number of retail food stores approved for par-
6 ticipation in the supplemental nutrition assistance
7 program that utilize an integrated electronic cash
8 register system to enable the Secretary to provide
9 State- and nationally-representative data in the re-
10 ports required under section 31.

11 “(2) DATA DESCRIBED.—The data referred to
12 in paragraph (1) is store-level point-of-sale data that
13 identifies the specific food items acquired at a retail
14 food store by eligible households using benefits.

15 “(3) PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT.—Chapter
16 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known
17 as the ‘Paperwork Reduction Act’), shall not apply
18 to this subsection.”.

19 (d) STATE REPORTS UNDER NUTRITION EDUCATION
20 AND OBESITY PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM.—Section
21 28(c)(9) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C.
22 2036a(c)(8)) is amended—

23 (1) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by striking “and”
24 at the end;

1 (2) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period
2 at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

3 (3) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(E) a description of actions taken by the
5 State to enhance the food security and nutrition
6 security of participants in the supplemental nu-
7 trition assistance program; and

8 “(F) recommendations, if applicable, re-
9 garding administering the supplemental nutri-
10 tion assistance program in a manner that would
11 enhance food security and nutrition security in
12 the State.”.

13 (e) **FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY.**—The Food
14 and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) is
15 amended by adding at the end the following:

16 **“SEC. 31. FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY REPORT; FOOD**
17 **SALES REPORT.**

18 “(a) **FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY REPORT.**—

19 “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 1 year after
20 the date of enactment of this section, and annually
21 thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Com-
22 mittee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of
23 the Senate and the Committee on Agriculture of the
24 House of Representatives a report on food security
25 and nutrition security in the United States.

1 “(2) CONTENTS.—A report submitted under
2 paragraph (1) shall include—

3 “(A) an analysis of the food security, nu-
4 trition security, and diet quality of participants
5 and nonparticipants in the supplemental nutri-
6 tion assistance program;

7 “(B)(i) a summary of changes made to the
8 supplemental nutrition assistance program in
9 the year covered by the report that are intended
10 to improve food security, nutrition security, and
11 diet quality; and

12 “(ii) an analysis of the impact and effec-
13 tiveness of those changes on food security, nu-
14 trition security, and diet quality; and

15 “(C) recommendations for additional au-
16 thority to the Secretary to improve food secu-
17 rity, nutrition security, and diet quality for par-
18 ticipants in the supplemental nutrition assist-
19 ance program.

20 “(b) FOOD SALES REPORT.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September
22 30, 2025, and at least once every 4 years thereafter,
23 the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Ag-
24 riculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate and
25 the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Rep-

1 representatives, and make publicly available on the
2 website of the Department of Agriculture, a report
3 on food sales in the supplemental nutrition assist-
4 ance program, including an analysis of the specific
5 food items acquired with benefits by eligible house-
6 holds.

7 “(2) DATA.—A report under paragraph (1)
8 shall use store-level data collected pursuant to sec-
9 tion 9(k).

10 “(3) PRIVACY.—For each report under para-
11 graph (1), the Secretary shall aggregate or
12 deidentify data in a manner sufficient to ensure that
13 the identity of participants or retailers associated
14 with the data cannot be ascertained.”.

○