

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5136

To address infrastructure needs for food banks serving rural communities
and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 4, 2023

Ms. BONAMICI (for herself and Ms. SCHRIER) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To address infrastructure needs for food banks serving rural
communities 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 “Supporting Transpor-
5 tation Organization and Refrigeration Expansion Act of
6 2023” or “STORE Act of 2023”.

7 **SEC. 2. IMPROVING THE EFAP INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS**
8 **PROGRAM.**

9 Section 209 of the Emergency Food Assistance Act
10 of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 7511a) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a) by striking “an emergency
2 feeding organization” and inserting “the State agen-
3 cy designated by a State in the State plan required
4 by section 202A (7 U.S.C. 7503)”,

5 (2) in subsection (b)(2)—

6 (A) by striking the heading and inserting
7 “PREFERENCE”,

8 (B) by inserting “Tribal, low income, and
9 remote” before “communities”, and

10 (C) in subparagraph (A) by striking and
11 inserting “rural” with “these”,

12 (3) in subsection (c)—

13 (A) by striking “carry out activities of the
14 eligible entity” and inserting “distribute grant
15 amounts to support activities”,

16 (B) in paragraph (1) by striking “for the
17 tracking of time-sensitive food products” and
18 inserting “needed to safely and efficiently dis-
19 tribute food to people in need”,

20 (C) in paragraph (2) by striking “time-sen-
21 sitive and perishable food products” and insert-
22 ing “commodities provided by the Secretary
23 under this Act and commodities secured from
24 other sources”,

25 (D) in paragraph (3)—

1 (i) by striking “through the support
2 of small or mid-size farms and ranches,
3 fisheries, and aquaculture, and donations
4 from local food producers and manufactur-
5 ers to persons in need”, and

6 (ii) by inserting “, including expand-
7 ing mobile and home delivery options and
8 assessments or professional studies of out-
9 reach activities” after “United States”,

10 (E) in paragraph (4) by inserting “, gov-
11 ernmental, and Tribal” after “nonprofit”, and

12 (F) in paragraph (5)—

13 (i) in subparagraph (B) by inserting
14 “, governmental, and Tribal” after “non-
15 profit”, and

16 (ii) in subparagraph (C)—

17 (I) by striking “rural areas” and
18 inserting “underserved areas identi-
19 fied in subsection (b)(2)”, and

20 (II) by striking “and” at the end,
21 (G) in paragraph (6)—

22 (i) by striking “constructing” and in-
23 sserting “renovating”, and

24 (ii) by striking the period at the end
25 and inserting “; and”, and

1 (H) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(7) not more than 4 percent of such grant for
3 administrative costs to carry this section.”, and

4 (4) in subsection (d) by striking “\$15,000,000”
5 and all that follows through “2023”, and inserting
6 “\$25,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2024
7 through 2028”.

8 **SEC. 3. REPORT ON COLD STORAGE NEEDS NATIONALLY.**

9 (a) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date
10 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture
11 shall carry out a study and produce a report—

12 (1) on the shortages to meet the total emer-
13 gency food needs for refrigerated and frozen storage
14 space, as well as refrigerated trucks and other deliv-
15 ery vehicles, for use by emergency food organizations
16 to meet the needs of their communities, and

17 (2) an estimate of the cost to meet the needs
18 of all emergency food organizations, including food
19 banks and food pantries, nationally for new coolers,
20 freezers, refrigerated and dry trucks, and trailers.

21 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

22 (1) EMERGENCY FOOD ORGANIZATION.—The
23 term “emergency food organization” has the mean-
24 ing given it in section 2 of the Emergency Food As-
25 sistance Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 7501) and is not oth-

1 otherwise limited to relevant organizations participating
2 in the emergency food assistance program under
3 such Act.

4 (2) SHORTAGES.—The term “shortages” means
5 meeting the total emergency food needs of the com-
6 munity, group, school, network, region, town, city,
7 state, or otherwise relevant area an emergency feed-
8 ing organization serves.

9 (c) APPROPRIATIONS.—There is appropriated, out of
10 any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated,
11 \$1,000,000, to remain available until expended, to carry
12 out this section.

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