

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7161

To amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to make a permanent program for the procurement of unprocessed fruits and vegetables to provide healthier school meals, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 16, 2018

Mr. WELCH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to make a permanent program for the procurement of unprocessed fruits and vegetables to provide healthier school meals, 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 “Local School Foods
5 Expansion Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. HELPING SCHOOLS SERVE HEALTHIER MEALS.**

7 Section 6(f) of the Richard B. Russell National
8 School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1755(f)) is amended—

1 (1) in the heading, by striking “PILOT
2 PROJECT FOR PROCUREMENT OF UNPROCESSED
3 FRUITS AND VEGETABLES” and inserting “PRO-
4 GRAM FOR PROCUREMENT OF DOMESTICALLY
5 GROWN UNPROCESSED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES”;

6 (2) by striking “pilot project” each place it ap-
7 pears and inserting “program”;

8 (3) by amending paragraph (1) to read as fol-
9 lows:

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry
11 out a program to facilitate the procurement of do-
12 mestically grown unprocessed fruits and vegetables
13 in not fewer than 15 States receiving funds under
14 this Act.”;

15 (4) in paragraph (2), by inserting “domestically
16 grown” before “unprocessed”;

17 (5) in paragraph (4)—

18 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking
19 “and” at the end;

20 (B) in subparagraph (C), by striking the
21 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

22 (C) by adding at the end the following:

23 “(D) the demonstrated ability of the States
24 to competitively procure the domestically grown
25 unprocessed fruits and vegetables.”;

1 (6) in paragraph (5)—

2 (A) in the heading, by striking “AND RE-
3 PORTING REQUIREMENTS” and inserting “, RE-
4 PORTING REQUIREMENTS, AND EVALUATIONS”;

5 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

6 (i) in clause (i), by striking “and” at
7 the end;

8 (ii) in clause (ii), by striking the pe-
9 riod and inserting “; and”; and

10 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
11 lowing:

12 “(iii) the States’ assessment of the
13 challenges and opportunities presented by
14 the program.”; and

15 (C) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(C) PROGRAM EVALUATION.—

17 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2
18 years after the date of the enactment of
19 this subparagraph, the Secretary shall
20 evaluate the impact of the program, includ-
21 ing information on—

22 “(I) the quantity and cost of
23 each type of unprocessed fruit and
24 vegetable procured by each State
25 under the program;

1 “(II) the benefit of such procure-
2 ment in conducting school food service
3 in each such State, including meeting
4 school meal requirements; and

5 “(III) the economic impact the
6 program has had on agricultural pro-
7 ducers in each such State.

8 “(ii) REPORT.—Not later than 4
9 years after the date of enactment of this
10 subparagraph, the Secretary shall submit
11 to the Committee on Agriculture of the
12 House Representatives and the Committee
13 on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of
14 the Senate a report that includes the re-
15 sults and an analysis of the evaluation re-
16 quired under clause (i).”; and

17 (7) by adding at the end the following new
18 paragraph:

19 “(6) FUNDING.—

20 “(A) MANDATORY FUNDING.—There is ap-
21 propriated to carry out this section
22 \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019
23 through 2023.

24 “(B) RESERVATION.—Of the funds appro-
25 priated under subparagraph (A) for a fiscal

1 year, \$10,000,000 shall be reserved for States
2 selected pursuant to paragraph (1) to carry out
3 State program administration and provide tech-
4 nical assistance and outreach to vendors to be-
5 come certified to participate in the program
6 under this section.

7 “(C) MINIMUM ALLOTMENT.—Of the
8 funds reserved under subparagraph (B), each
9 State selected pursuant to paragraph (1) shall
10 receive not less than \$300,000 for each fiscal
11 year during which such State participates in the
12 program under this section.”.

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