

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5740

To amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to require mandatory funding for the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 10, 2025

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. WALKINSHAW, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. ANSARI, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BELL, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mrs. HAYES, Mrs. McIVER, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. SIMON, Ms. ROSS, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. OLSZEWSKI, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. BROWN, Mrs. DINGELL, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. VINDMAN, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. CASAR, Mr. IVEY, Ms. OMAR, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. McCLELLAN, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. ELFRETH, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. AMO, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. MORRISON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. RIVAS, and Mr. GARAMENDI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to require mandatory funding for the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children, 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 “WIC Benefits Protec-
 5 tion Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. MANDATORY FUNDING FOR WIC.**

7 (a) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—Section 17(c) of the Child
 8 Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(c)) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “may carry
 10 out” and inserting “shall carry out”;

11 (2) in paragraph (2)—

12 (A) by striking the matter preceding sub-
 13 paragraph (A); and

14 (B) by redesignating subparagraphs (A)
 15 and (B) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively;

16 (3) in paragraph (2), as so redesignated—

17 (A) by striking “the Secretary” and insert-
 18 ing “The Secretary”; and

19 (B) by striking “, and” and inserting a pe-
 20 riod; and

21 (4) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated, by
 22 striking “any State” and inserting “Any State”.

23 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—Section 17(d)(1) of the Child Nu-
 24 trition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(d)(1)) is amended
 25 by striking “Participation in the program under this sec-

1 tion shall be limited to” and inserting “Individuals who
2 are eligible to participate in the program under this sec-
3 tion shall be”.

4 (c) APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 17(g) of the Child
5 Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(g)) is amended—

6 (1) in the heading, by striking “AUTHORIZA-
7 TION OF”; and

8 (2) by amending subparagraph (A) of para-
9 graph (1) to read as follows:

10 “(A) APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to
11 amounts otherwise available, there are appro-
12 priated, out of any money in the Treasury not
13 otherwise appropriated, such sums as are nec-
14 essary to carry out this section for fiscal year
15 2026 and each succeeding fiscal year.”.

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