

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7999

To amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to provide additional reimbursement to schools with a breakfast after the bell program, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 19, 2026

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

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## A BILL

To amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to provide additional reimbursement to schools with a breakfast after the bell program, 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 “Breakfast After the  
5       Bell Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCREASED REIMBURSEMENT FOR BREAKFAST**  
2 **AFTER THE BELL.**

3 Section 11(a) of the Richard B. Russell National  
4 School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1759a(a)) is amended by  
5 adding at the end the following:

6 “(4) BREAKFAST AFTER THE BELL REIM-  
7 BURSEMENT.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A State educational  
9 agency shall receive an additional reimburse-  
10 ment of 10 cents for each reimbursable break-  
11 fast served—

12 “(i) after the beginning of a school  
13 day;

14 “(ii) through a breakfast after the bell  
15 program; and

16 “(iii) during a school year by a school  
17 that—

18 “(I) is served by a local edu-  
19 cational agency that elects to receive  
20 special assistance payments under  
21 paragraph (1)(F)(ii) for such school  
22 for such year; or

23 “(II) had a percentage of en-  
24 rolled students who were identified  
25 students that was not less than 40  
26 percent during the prior school year.

1           “(B) DISBURSE FUNDS TO SCHOOL.—A  
2           State educational agency that receives an addi-  
3           tional reimbursement for a breakfast under  
4           subparagraph (A) shall disburse such additional  
5           reimbursement to the school that served such  
6           breakfast.

7           “(C) BREAKFAST AFTER THE BELL PRO-  
8           GRAM.—In this paragraph, the term ‘breakfast  
9           after the bell program’ means a school break-  
10          fast program that—

11                 “(i) serves breakfast to students after  
12                 the start of the school day; and

13                 “(ii) uses a service model, including  
14                 service of breakfast in the classroom or at  
15                 a kiosk outside the cafeteria of the school,  
16                 that the State educational agency deter-  
17                 mines increases participation in the break-  
18                 fast program.”.

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