

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8246

To allow certain students, including those who have a student aid index equal to or less than zero, to qualify for supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 9, 2026

Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia (for herself, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. CHU, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SALINAS, Mr. THANEDAR, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Ms. TLAIB) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To allow certain students, including those who have a student aid index equal to or less than zero, to qualify for supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008.

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 “Overcoming Higher
5 Education Hunger Through the Supplemental Nutrition

1 Assistance Program Act of 2026” or the “OHH SNAP
2 Act of 2026”.

3 **SEC. 2. SNAP TREATMENT OF EDUCATIONAL LOANS.**

4 Section 5(k) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008
5 (7 U.S.C. 2014(k)) is amended—

6 (1) by striking paragraph (3); and

7 (2) by redesignating paragraph (4) as para-
8 graph (3).

9 **SEC. 3. ELIGIBILITY OF STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE**
10 **SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE**
11 **PROGRAM.**

12 Section 6 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7
13 U.S.C. 2015) is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (e)—

15 (A) in paragraph (7), by striking “or” at
16 the end;

17 (B) in paragraph (8), by striking the pe-
18 riod at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

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

20 “(9) has a student aid index that is equal to or
21 less than \$0, as determined by the procedures estab-
22 lished in part F of title IV of the Higher Education
23 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087kk–1087vv); or

24 “(10) is determined to be ‘independent’ based
25 on one of the criteria specified in subparagraphs

1 (B), (C), (D), (G), and (H) of section 480(d)(1) of
2 the Higher Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1087vv).”;
3 and

4 (2) in subsection (o)(2)(A), by striking “work”
5 and inserting “attending an institution of higher
6 education (as defined in section 102 of the Higher
7 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)) or work,
8 in the aggregate,”.

9 **SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS.**

10 (a) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—Except as provided in sub-
11 section (b), this Act and the amendments made by this
12 Act shall take effect 180 days after the date of the enact-
13 ment of this Act.

14 (b) **APPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS.**—The amend-
15 ments made by this Act shall not apply with respect to
16 certification periods that begin before the effective date
17 of this Act.

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