

109TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1120

AN ACT

To reduce hunger in the United States, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Hunger-Free Communities Act of 2006”.

1 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of
 2 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
 Sec. 2. Findings.
 Sec. 3. Definitions.

TITLE I—NATIONAL COMMITMENT TO END HUNGER

Sec. 101. Hunger reports.

TITLE II—STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY EFFORTS

Sec. 201. Hunger-free communities collaborative grants.
 Sec. 202. Hunger-free communities training and technical assistance grants.
 Sec. 203. Report.

TITLE III—AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 301. Authorization of appropriations.

3 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds that—

5 (1)(A) at the 1996 World Food Summit, the
 6 United States, along with 185 other countries,
 7 pledged to reduce the number of undernourished
 8 people by half by 2015; and

9 (B) as a result of this pledge, the Department
 10 of Health and Human Services adopted the Healthy
 11 People 2010 goal to cut food insecurity in half by
 12 2010, and in doing so reduce hunger;

13 (2)(A) national nutrition programs are among
 14 the fastest, most direct ways to efficiently and effec-
 15 tively prevent hunger, reduce food insecurity, and
 16 improve nutrition among the populations targeted by
 17 a program;

1 (3) in 2001, food banks, food pantries, soup
 2 kitchens, and emergency shelters helped to feed
 3 more than 23,000,000 low-income people; and

4 (4) community-based organizations and char-
 5 ities can help—

6 (A) play an important role in preventing
 7 and reducing hunger;

8 (B) measure community food security;

9 (C) develop and implement plans for im-
 10 proving food security;

11 (D) educate community leaders about the
 12 problems of and solutions to hunger;

13 (E) ensure that local nutrition programs
 14 are implemented effectively; and

15 (F) improve the connection of food inse-
 16 cure people to anti-hunger programs.

17 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

18 In this Act:

19 (1) DOMESTIC HUNGER GOAL.—The term “do-
 20 mestic hunger goal” means—

21 (A) the goal of reducing hunger in the
 22 United States to at or below 2 percent by 2010;
 23 or

1 (B) the goal of reducing food insecurity in
 2 the United States to at or below 6 percent by
 3 2010.

4 (2) EMERGENCY FEEDING ORGANIZATION.—
 5 The term “emergency feeding organization” has the
 6 meaning given the term in section 201A of the
 7 Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C.
 8 7501).

9 (3) FOOD SECURITY.—The term “food secu-
 10 rity” means the state in which an individual has ac-
 11 cess to enough food for an active, healthy life.

12 (4) HUNGER-FREE COMMUNITIES GOAL.—The
 13 term “hunger-free communities goal” means any of
 14 the 14 goals described in the H. Con. Res. 302
 15 (102nd Congress).

16 (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
 17 the Secretary of Agriculture.

18 **TITLE I—NATIONAL** 19 **COMMITMENT TO END HUNGER**

20 **SEC. 101. HUNGER REPORTS.**

21 (a) STUDY.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct
 23 a study not later than 1 year after the date of enact-
 24 ment of this Act, and an update of the study not
 25 later than 5 years thereafter, of major matters relat-

1 ing to the problem of hunger in the United States,
2 as determined by the Secretary.

3 (2) MATTERS TO BE ASSESSED.—The matters
4 to be assessed by the Secretary shall include—

5 (A) data on hunger and food insecurity in
6 the United States;

7 (B) measures carried out during the pre-
8 vious year by Federal, State, and local govern-
9 ments to achieve domestic hunger goals and
10 hunger-free communities goals; and

11 (C) measures that could be carried out by
12 Federal, State, and local governments to
13 achieve domestic hunger goals and hunger-free
14 communities goals.

15 (b) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Secretary shall de-
16 velop recommendations on—

17 (1) removing obstacles to achieving domestic
18 hunger goals and hunger-free communities goals;
19 and

20 (2) otherwise reducing domestic hunger.

21 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
22 of enactment of this Act, and 5 years thereafter, the Sec-
23 retary shall submit to the President and Congress a report
24 that contains—

1 (1) a detailed statement of the results of the
 2 study, or the most recent update to the study, con-
 3 ducted under subsection (a); and

4 (2) the most recent recommendations of the
 5 Secretary under subsection (b).

6 **TITLE II—STRENGTHENING** 7 **COMMUNITY EFFORTS**

8 **SEC. 201. HUNGER-FREE COMMUNITIES COLLABORATIVE** 9 **GRANTS.**

10 (a) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In this sec-
 11 tion, the term “eligible entity” means a public food pro-
 12 gram service provider or a nonprofit organization, includ-
 13 ing but not limited to an emergency feeding organization,
 14 that demonstrates the organization has collaborated, or
 15 will collaborate, with 1 or more local partner organizations
 16 to achieve at least 1 hunger-free communities goal.

17 (b) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall use not
 19 more than 90 percent of any funds made available
 20 under title III to make grants to eligible entities to
 21 pay the Federal share of the costs of an activity de-
 22 scribed in subsection (d).

23 (2) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of
 24 the cost of carrying out an activity under this sec-
 25 tion shall not exceed 80 percent.

1 (3) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—

2 (A) CALCULATION.—The non-Federal
3 share of the cost of an activity under this sec-
4 tion may be provided in cash or in kind, fairly
5 evaluated, including facilities, equipment, or
6 services.

7 (B) SOURCES.—Any entity may provide
8 the non-Federal share of the cost of an activity
9 under this section through a State government,
10 a local government, or a private source.

11 (c) APPLICATION.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—To receive a grant under
13 this section, an eligible entity shall submit an appli-
14 cation to the Secretary at the time and in the man-
15 ner and accompanied by any information the Sec-
16 retary may require.

17 (2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted
18 under paragraph (1) shall—

19 (A) identify any activity described in sub-
20 section (d) that the grant will be used to fund;

21 (B) describe the means by which an activ-
22 ity identified under subparagraph (A) will re-
23 duce hunger in the community of the eligible
24 entity;

1 (C) list any partner organizations of the el-
 2 igible entity that will participate in an activity
 3 funded by the grant;

4 (D) describe any agreement between a
 5 partner organization and the eligible entity nec-
 6 essary to carry out an activity funded by the
 7 grant; and

8 (E) if an assessment described in sub-
 9 section (d)(1) has been performed, include—

10 (i) a summary of that assessment;

11 and

12 (ii) information regarding the means
 13 by which the grant will help reduce hunger
 14 in the community of the eligible entity.

15 (3) PRIORITY.—In making grants under this
 16 section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible
 17 entities that—

18 (A) demonstrate in the application of the
 19 eligible entity that the eligible entity makes col-
 20 laborative efforts to reduce hunger in the com-
 21 munity of the eligible entity; and

22 (B)(i) serve a predominantly rural and
 23 geographically underserved area;

24 (ii) serve communities in which the rates of
 25 food insecurity, hunger, poverty, or unemploy-

ment are demonstrably higher than national average rates;

(iii) provide evidence of long-term efforts to reduce hunger in the community;

(iv) provide evidence of public support for the efforts of the eligible entity; or

(v) demonstrate in the application of the eligible entity a commitment to achieving more than 1 hunger-free communities goal.

(d) USE OF FUNDS.—

(1) ASSESSMENT OF HUNGER IN THE COMMUNITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity in a community that has not performed an assessment described in subparagraph (B) may use a grant received under this section to perform the assessment for the community.

(B) ASSESSMENT.—The assessment referred to in subparagraph (A) shall include—

(i) an analysis of the problem of hunger in the community served by the eligible entity;

(ii) an evaluation of any facility and any equipment used to achieve a hunger-free communities goal in the community;

1 (iii) an analysis of the effectiveness
2 and extent of service of existing nutrition
3 programs and emergency feeding organiza-
4 tions; and

5 (iv) a plan to achieve any other hun-
6 ger-free communities goal in the commu-
7 nity.

8 (2) ACTIVITIES.—An eligible entity in a com-
9 munity that has submitted an assessment to the
10 Secretary shall use a grant received under this sec-
11 tion for any fiscal year for activities of the eligible
12 entity, including—

13 (A) meeting the immediate needs of people
14 in the community served by the eligible entity
15 who experience hunger by—

16 (i) distributing food;

17 (ii) providing community outreach; or

18 (iii) improving access to food as part
19 of a comprehensive service;

20 (B) developing new resources and strate-
21 gies to help reduce hunger in the community;

22 (C) establishing a program to achieve a
23 hunger-free communities goal in the commu-
24 nity, including—

1 (i) a program to prevent, monitor, and
 2 treat children in the community experi-
 3 encing hunger or poor nutrition; or

4 (ii) a program to provide information
 5 to people in the community on hunger, do-
 6 mestic hunger goals, and hunger-free com-
 7 munities goals; and

8 (D) establishing a program to provide food
 9 and nutrition services as part of a coordinated
 10 community-based comprehensive service.

11 **SEC. 202. HUNGER-FREE COMMUNITIES TRAINING AND**
 12 **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS.**

13 (a) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In this sec-
 14 tion, the term “eligible entity” means a national or re-
 15 gional nonprofit organization that carries out an activity
 16 described in subsection (d).

17 (b) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall use not
 19 more than 10 percent of any funds made available
 20 under title III to make grants to eligible entities to
 21 pay the Federal share of the costs of an activity de-
 22 scribed in subsection (d).

23 (2) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of
 24 the cost of carrying out an activity under this sec-
 25 tion shall not exceed 80 percent.

1 (c) APPLICATION.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—To receive a grant under
3 this section, an eligible entity shall submit an appli-
4 cation to the Secretary at the time and in the man-
5 ner and accompanied by any information the Sec-
6 retary may require.

7 (2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted
8 under paragraph (1) shall—

9 (A) demonstrate that the eligible entity
10 does not operate for profit;

11 (B) describe any national or regional train-
12 ing program carried out by the eligible entity,
13 including a description of each region served by
14 the eligible entity;

15 (C) describe any national or regional tech-
16 nical assistance provided by the eligible entity,
17 including a description of each region served by
18 the eligible entity; and

19 (D) describe the means by which each or-
20 ganization served by the eligible entity—

21 (i) works to achieve a domestic hun-
22 ger goal;

23 (ii) works to achieve a hunger-free
24 communities goal; or

1 (iii) used a grant received by the orga-
2 nization under section 201.

3 (3) PRIORITY.—In making grants under this
4 section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible
5 entities the applications of which demonstrate 2 or
6 more of the following:

7 (A) The eligible entity serves a predomi-
8 nantly rural and geographically underserved
9 area.

10 (B) The eligible entity serves a region in
11 which the rates of food insecurity, hunger, pov-
12 erty, or unemployment are demonstrably higher
13 than national average rates.

14 (C) The eligible entity serves a region that
15 has carried out long-term efforts to reduce hun-
16 ger in the region.

17 (D) The eligible entity serves a region that
18 provides public support for the efforts of the el-
19 igible entity.

20 (E) The eligible entity is committed to
21 achieving more than 1 hunger-free communities
22 goal.

23 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity shall use a
24 grant received under this section for any fiscal year to

1 carry out national or regional training and technical as-
2 sistance for organizations that—

- 3 (1) work to achieve a domestic hunger goal;
- 4 (2) work to achieve a hunger-free communities
- 5 goal; or
- 6 (3) receive a grant under section 201.

7 **SEC. 203. REPORT.**

8 Not later than September 30, 2011, the Secretary
9 shall submit to Congress a report describing—

- 10 (1) each grant made under this title,
- 11 including—

- 12 (A) a description of any activity funded by
- 13 such a grant; and

- 14 (B) the degree of success of each activity
- 15 funded by such a grant in achieving hunger-free
- 16 communities goals; and

- 17 (2) the degree of success of all activities funded
- 18 by grants under this title in achieving domestic hun-
- 19 ger goals.

1 **TITLE III—AUTHORIZATION OF**
2 **APPROPRIATIONS**

3 **SEC. 301. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

4 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
5 title II \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2006 through
6 2011.

Passed the Senate December 8, 2006.

Attest:

Secretary.

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other purposes.