

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1720

To conduct a pilot program in support of efforts to increase the amount of purchases of local fresh fruits and vegetables for schools and service institutions by giving certain States the option of receiving a grant from the Secretary of Agriculture for that purpose instead of obtaining commodities under Department of Agriculture programs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 24, 2013

Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. GIBSON, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, and Mr. DESJARLAIS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To conduct a pilot program in support of efforts to increase the amount of purchases of local fresh fruits and vegetables for schools and service institutions by giving certain States the option of receiving a grant from the Secretary of Agriculture for that purpose instead of obtaining commodities under Department of Agriculture programs.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Local School Foods
3 Act of 2013”.

4 **SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY FOR PURCHASE OF FRESH**
5 **FRUITS, VEGETABLES, AND OTHER SPE-**
6 **CIALTY FOOD CROPS.**

7 Section 10603 of the Farm Security and Rural In-
8 vestment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 612c–4) is amended—

9 (1) in subsection (b), by striking “2012” and
10 inserting “2017”;

11 (2) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
12 section (d); and

13 (3) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
14 lowing new subsection:

15 “(c) PILOT GRANT PROGRAM FOR PURCHASE OF
16 FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Using amounts made avail-
18 able to carry out subsection (b), the Secretary of Ag-
19 riculture shall conduct a pilot program under which
20 the Secretary will give not more than five partici-
21 pating States the option of receiving a grant in an
22 amount equal to the value of the commodities that
23 the participating State would otherwise receive
24 under this section for each of fiscal years 2014
25 through 2018.

1 “(2) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—A participating
2 State receiving a grant under this subsection may
3 use the grant funds solely to purchase fresh fruits
4 and vegetables for distribution to schools and service
5 institutions in the State that participate in the food
6 service programs under the Richard B. Russell Na-
7 tional School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.)
8 and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C.
9 1771 et seq.). To the maximum extent practicable,
10 the fruits and vegetables shall be locally grown, as
11 determined by the State.

12 “(3) SELECTION OF PARTICIPATING STATES.—
13 The Secretary shall select participating States from
14 applications submitted by the States.

15 “(4) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

16 “(A) SCHOOL AND SERVICE INSTITUTION
17 REQUIREMENT.—Schools and service institu-
18 tions in a participating State shall keep records
19 of purchases of fresh fruits and vegetables
20 made using the grant funds and report such
21 records to the State.

22 “(B) STATE REQUIREMENT.—Each par-
23 ticipating State shall submit to the Secretary a
24 report on the success of the pilot program in
25 the State, including information on—

1 “(i) the amount and value of each
2 type of fresh fruit and vegetable purchased
3 by the State; and

4 “(ii) the benefit provided by such pur-
5 chases in conducting the school food serv-
6 ice in the State, including meeting school
7 meal requirements.”.

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