

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4121

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to provide greater access to the supplemental nutrition assistance program by reducing duplicative and burdensome administrative requirements, authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to award grants to certain community-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger groups for the purpose of establishing and implementing a Beyond the Soup Kitchen Pilot Program for certain socially and economically disadvantaged populations, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 19, 2015

Mr. SERRANO (for himself, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MEEKS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to provide greater access to the supplemental nutrition assistance program by reducing duplicative and burdensome administrative requirements, authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to award grants to certain community-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger groups for the purpose of establishing and implementing a Beyond the Soup Kitchen Pilot Program for certain socially and economically disadvantaged populations, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Anti-hunger Empower-
3 ment Act of 2015”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 The Congress finds the following:

6 (1) In 2014 the number of Americans facing
7 hunger or food insecurity was 48,100,000, and
8 15,300,000 children lived in these households.
9 5,400,000 seniors ages 60 and up were also experi-
10 encing food hardship.

11 (2) In August 2015 approximately 45,500,000
12 people participate in the supplemental nutrition as-
13 sistance program (SNAP). In fiscal year 2014 on a
14 monthly average, 47,600,000 people participated in
15 this program, about 15 percent of the United States
16 population. SNAP, the Special Supplemental Nutri-
17 tion Assistance Program for Women, Infants, and
18 Children (WIC), and the National School Lunch
19 Program (NSLP) are the largest nutrition assist-
20 ance programs, and 61 percent of food-insecure
21 households participated in 1 or more of the 3 pro-
22 grams.

23 (3) Administrative burdens involved in securing
24 supplemental nutrition assistance benefits are par-
25 ticularly burdensome for working families.

1 (4) Each year tens of millions people in the
2 United States, including children and seniors, are
3 forced to rely on soup kitchens, food pantries, and
4 other charitable feeding programs.

5 (5) The charitable food distribution system in
6 the United States would benefit from increased co-
7 ordination and technical assistance.

8 (6) Helping those who use feeding programs to
9 move “beyond the soup kitchen”, by promoting the
10 values of community, opportunity, and responsibility,
11 is a national priority.

12 **TITLE I—AMENDMENTS TO THE**
13 **FOOD AND NUTRITION ACT**
14 **OF 2008**

15 **SEC. 101. AMENDMENTS TO THE FOOD AND NUTRITION ACT**
16 **OF 2008.**

17 (a) ADMINISTRATIVE COST SHARING AND QUALITY
18 CONTROL.—Section 16(k) of the Food and Nutrition Act
19 of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2025(k)) is amended by striking sub-
20 section (k) and inserting the following:

21 “(k) ADMINISTRATIVE COST FOR INCREASING AC-
22 CESS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this sec-
23 tion, the Secretary is authorized to pay to each State
24 agency an amount equal to 75 percent of the administra-

1 tive costs incurred by the State agency in carrying out
2 new activities not previously funded by the State—

3 “(1) to increase the number of hours that sup-
4 plemental nutrition assistance offices are open on
5 weekends and nights if there is neither a decrease in
6 the total number of supplemental nutrition assist-
7 ance offices that are open in the State nor a de-
8 crease in the number of hours such offices are open
9 during the regular work week;

10 “(2) to conduct verifiable activities to reduce
11 the average wait time that applicants spend at sup-
12 plemental nutrition assistance offices or to reduce
13 the average number of office visits required of appli-
14 cants;

15 “(3) to accept applications for supplemental nu-
16 trition assistance benefit by means of the Internet;

17 “(4) to upgrade computer systems and tech-
18 nology in ways that specifically increase access to
19 the supplemental nutrition assistance program;

20 “(5) at the time of application, to provide appli-
21 cants with a checklist listing all documents required
22 for a complete supplemental nutrition assistance ap-
23 plication.”.

24 (b) REDUCTION OF BURDENSOME AND DUPLICATIVE
25 OFFICE VISITS; PROHIBITION OF FINGERPRINTING.—

1 Section 11(e)(2) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008
2 (7 U.S.C. 2020(e)(2)) is amended—

3 (1) in subparagraph (A) by striking the period
4 at the end and inserting “; and”,

5 (2) in subparagraph (B) by striking “In” and
6 inserting “that in”,

7 (3) in subparagraph (D) by inserting the fol-
8 lowing before the semicolon at the end: “, and the
9 fingerprint of any member of a household shall not
10 be required for the purpose of participating in the
11 supplemental nutrition assistance program or for
12 issuance of benefits for which the household would
13 otherwise be eligible”,

14 (4) by redesignating subparagraphs (C) and
15 (D) as subparagraphs (D) and (E), respectively, and

16 (5) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the fol-
17 lowing:

18 “(C) that the State agency shall inform house-
19 holds, at the time of application, that—

20 “(i) household members are not required
21 to appear in person at the time of application,
22 or at any other time, unless—

23 “(I) expressly required by this Act; or

24 “(II) in accordance with clause (ii);

25 and

1 “(ii) if the State agency has a basis to rea-
2 sonably believe that information provided by a
3 household is incorrect or that a household has
4 failed to provide information required for par-
5 ticipation in the supplemental nutrition assist-
6 ance program, then the State agency shall—

7 “(I) provide to the household a writ-
8 ten statement notifying the household of
9 such belief; specifying the factual basis of
10 such belief, informing the household of the
11 applicable information that is believed to
12 be incorrect or missing, and instructing the
13 household how to correct or to provide the
14 appropriate information; and

15 “(II) not require any member of such
16 household to appear in person unless either
17 the household fails to provide the appro-
18 priate information or the State agency can-
19 not verify the accuracy of information the
20 household provides in response to the re-
21 quest made under this subparagraph by
22 the State agency;”.

1 **SEC. 102. COMPARATIVE PROGRESS REPORT.**

2 Section 18 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008
3 (7 U.S.C. 2027) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(i) The Secretary shall submit a single, unified, an-
6 nual report to the appropriate committees of the Congress
7 on the comparative progress of States in improving access
8 to the supplemental nutrition assistance program. The fol-
9 lowing statistics shall be included in the report with re-
10 spect to each particular State:

11 “(1) The percentage of supplemental nutrition
12 assistance program applications processed within the
13 30-day period required by this Act.

14 “(2) The average number of days required to
15 process expedited applications for supplemental nu-
16 trition assistance benefits.

17 “(3) The average number of days required to
18 process regular applications for supplemental nutri-
19 tion assistance benefits.

20 “(4) The average number of office visits that
21 each applicant makes to receive supplemental nutri-
22 tion assistance benefits.

23 “(5) Statewide negative errors rates.

24 “(6) The overall participation rate of house-
25 holds that are eligible to participate in the supple-
26 mental nutrition assistance program.

1 “(7) The information specified in paragraphs
2 (1) through (6) for a particular geographical area in
3 such State.”.

4 **TITLE II—ANTI-HUNGER GRANTS** 5 **PROGRAM**

6 **SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.**

7 This title may be cited as the “Beyond the Soup
8 Kitchen Grants Program Act of 2015”.

9 **SEC. 202. BEYOND THE SOUP KITCHEN PILOT PROGRAM.**

10 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT OF PILOT PROGRAM.**—The Sec-
11 retary shall establish a pilot program, to be known as the
12 “Beyond the Soup Kitchen Pilot Program”, in accordance
13 with this title.

14 (b) **PURPOSES.**—The purposes of the pilot program
15 are—

16 (1) to provide grant assistance to a primary
17 community-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger
18 group in each pilot community for purposes of allo-
19 cating subgrants to other community-based non-
20 profit feeding and anti-hunger groups in such com-
21 munity; and

22 (2) to provide technical assistance grants.

1 **SEC. 203. SELECTION OF PRIMARY COMMUNITY-BASED**
2 **NONPROFIT FEEDING AND ANTI-HUNGER**
3 **GROUPS AND SUBGRANTEES.**

4 (a) GRANTS TO PRIMARY COMMUNITY-BASED NON-
5 PROFIT FEEDING AND ANTI-HUNGER GROUPS.—Under
6 the pilot program and for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall
7 award not more than 30 grants to primary community-
8 based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger groups, in ac-
9 cordance with this section.

10 (b) APPLICATION.—To be eligible for an award of a
11 grant for a fiscal year under this section, a community-
12 based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger group shall sub-
13 mit to the Secretary an application that contains a de-
14 scription of how the applicant proposes to use the grant
15 funds to implement the components of the pilot program
16 listed in subsection (c) in the pilot community of the com-
17 munity-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger group.
18 The application shall be submitted in such form, at such
19 time, and containing such other information as the Sec-
20 retary may require.

21 (c) PILOT PROGRAM COMPONENTS.—An application
22 for a grant under this section shall contain the following
23 components:

24 (1) PROGRAMS COMPONENT.—A program com-
25 ponent that describes, with respect to a target popu-
26 lation of a pilot community and in accordance with

1 section 204, programs designed for the following
2 purposes:

3 (A) To reduce hunger in such target popu-
4 lation.

5 (B) To increase the use of nutrition assist-
6 ance and anti-poverty programs by such target
7 population.

8 (C) To bolster food security within such
9 target population.

10 (D) To assist individuals and families
11 within such target population to develop assets.

12 (E) To promote the economic independence
13 of individuals and families within such target
14 population.

15 (F) To improve the nutrition of such tar-
16 get population.

17 (G) To reduce the occurrence of obesity in
18 such target population.

19 (2) COMMUNITY FOOD COUNCIL.—A community
20 food council component that describes the formation
21 and operation of a community food council designed
22 to engage emergency feeding groups, Federal, State,
23 and local government agencies, the cooperative ex-
24 tension system, land-grant colleges and universities,
25 and historically African-American, Hispanic, and

1 American Indian educational institutes for the pur-
2 poses described under paragraph (1).

3 (3) SUBGRANTS COMPONENT.—A subgrants
4 component that describes a plan for the allocation of
5 grants funds to subgrantees by the primary commu-
6 nity-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger group,
7 in accordance with subsection (e).

8 (d) CRITERIA.—In evaluating an application of a
9 community-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger
10 group, the Secretary shall consider, in addition to such
11 other criteria as the Secretary determines appropriate, the
12 extent to which the application of the group demonstrates
13 the following:

14 (1) The capacity to serve as a leader for other
15 community-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger
16 groups in the pilot community and to successfully
17 provide technical assistance and other assistance to
18 the greatest number of such groups.

19 (2) Successful experience—

20 (A) in conducting a program described in
21 section 204(b);

22 (B) in working with a national service,
23 community service, or volunteer service group
24 that conducts a program described in section
25 204(b);

1 (C) in managing and using Federal grant
2 funds, including grants for community food and
3 nutrition programs authorized under section
4 681(a) of the Community Services Block Grant
5 Act (42 U.S.C. 9922(a));

6 (D) in working cooperatively with a nutri-
7 tion assistance and anti-poverty program, other
8 community-based nonprofit feeding and anti-
9 hunger groups, and faith-based and other com-
10 munity programs in the pilot community; and

11 (E) in researching, monitoring, and evalu-
12 ating the hunger problems in the pilot commu-
13 nity of such organization and nutrition assist-
14 ance and anti-poverty programs.

15 (3) In the case of a community-based nonprofit
16 feeding and anti-hunger group with a large budget,
17 the existence of a financial mechanism to implement
18 the proposal and staff expertise to handle large Fed-
19 eral and private grants, or in the case of a commu-
20 nity-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger group
21 with a small budget, proven effectiveness in the de-
22 livery and coordination of a program described in
23 section 204(b).

24 (4) The ability to influence other community,
25 government, and private resources to assist in the

1 creation and implementation of the pilot program in
2 the pilot community of the community-based non-
3 profit feeding and anti-hunger group.

4 (e) SUBGRANTS.—

5 (1) SELECTION BY PRIMARY COMMUNITY-BASED
6 NONPROFIT FEEDING AND ANTI-HUNGER GROUP RE-
7 QUIRED.—Under the pilot program, the Secretary
8 shall require a primary community-based nonprofit
9 feeding and anti-hunger group that is awarded a
10 grant under subsection (a) to select at least 10, but
11 no more than 200, subgrantees to carry out sub-
12 grants under the grants. Such subgrants shall be
13 used in support of the pilot program in the pilot
14 community of such group, in accordance with section
15 204.

16 (2) SELECTION OF SUBGRANTEES.—A primary
17 community-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger
18 group shall select subgrantees for purposes of para-
19 graph (1)—

20 (A) by selecting the subgrantee in the ap-
21 plication submitted under subsection (b); or

22 (B) in consultation with the Secretary of
23 Agriculture after evaluating proposals sub-
24 mitted by subgrantee applicants.

1 **SEC. 204. USES OF GRANTS.**

2 (a) **REQUIRED USES BY PRIMARY COMMUNITY-**
3 **BASED NONPROFIT FEEDING AND ANTI-HUNGER**
4 **GROUPS.**—A primary community-based nonprofit feeding
5 and anti-hunger group that is awarded a grant under sec-
6 tion 203(a) shall—

7 (1) allocate at least 60 percent of the grant for
8 subgrants in accordance with section 203(e); and

9 (2) spend at least 5 percent of the grant on
10 evaluation of the pilot program in the pilot commu-
11 nity of such group.

12 (b) **ELIGIBLE USES BY PRIMARY COMMUNITY-BASED**
13 **NONPROFIT FEEDING AND ANTI-HUNGER GROUPS AND**
14 **SUBGRANTEES.**—Grant funds awarded to a primary com-
15 munity-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger group or
16 allocated to a subgrantee under the pilot program may be
17 used for any of the following purposes:

18 (1) **ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS.**—With respect to a
19 target population in a pilot community, any of the
20 following programs:

21 (A) A program that informs such popu-
22 lation about benefits under nutrition assistance
23 and anti-poverty programs, pre-screens mem-
24 bers of such population to determine the eligi-
25 bility of such members to receive such benefits,

1 and assists such members to access relevant
2 benefits.

3 (B) A program to assist such population to
4 transition successfully from welfare to work.

5 (C) A program that is likely to result in
6 job creation or that involves job training, readi-
7 ness, placement, or retention activities.

8 (D) A program to increase the supply of
9 donated foods to community-based nonprofit
10 feeding and anti-hunger groups, especially of
11 fresh fruits, vegetables, and other nutritious
12 foods.

13 (E) A program that increases the access of
14 such population to fresh fruits, vegetables, and
15 other nutritious foods.

16 (F) A program that promotes the use of
17 farmers' markets, urban farms, and food-pro-
18 ducing agriculture projects, especially a pro-
19 gram that promotes the use of such markets,
20 farms, and projects by nutrition assistance and
21 anti-poverty programs.

22 (G) A program to assess the flow of food,
23 from production through consumption, in a
24 community.

1 (H) A program that involves nutrition edu-
2 cation, obesity reduction, or financial manage-
3 ment activities, especially such activities that
4 have hands-on demonstrations or that promote
5 physical activity.

6 (I) A program that promotes microenter-
7 prise and small business development, especially
8 the development of such a business that is food-
9 related.

10 (J) A program that assists government
11 agencies and nonprofit groups to increase the
12 number of sites (and participation in existing
13 sites) for after-school snacks and meals pro-
14 grams under the summer food service program
15 for children authorized under section 13 of the
16 Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act
17 (42 U.S.C. 1766) and the child and adult care
18 food program authorized under section 17 of
19 such Act (42 U.S.C. 1761).

20 (K) A program that creates a customer ad-
21 visory council at a community-based nonprofit
22 feeding and anti-hunger group to enable an in-
23 dividual who obtains food from such group to
24 consult with the council on ways to improve the
25 operations of such group.

1 (L) A program to increase the assistance
2 of national and community service programs,
3 including AmeriCorps, Volunteers in Service to
4 America (AmeriCorps–VISTA), Learn and
5 Serve America, Senior Corps, Freedom Corps,
6 and any other volunteer program to aid commu-
7 nity-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger
8 groups.

9 (M) A program to increase the involvement
10 of volunteers who have professional skills with
11 community-based nonprofit feeding and anti-
12 hunger groups and other nonprofit groups.

13 (N) A program that relates nutrition im-
14 provement and the problem of hunger within
15 such population to broader issues within the
16 pilot community, including community develop-
17 ment and economic improvement.

18 (O) A program that promotes the use of
19 individual development accounts, as defined in
20 section 404(5) of the Assets for Independence
21 Act (title IV of Public Law 105–285; 42 U.S.C.
22 604 note), or any other such asset-development
23 program.

1 (P) With respect to a community-based
2 nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger group, a pro-
3 gram to—

4 (i) provide technical assistance to such
5 group to increase the technical capacities
6 of such group; or

7 (ii) enable the group to more effi-
8 ciently and effectively use computer tech-
9 nology, recruit volunteers, write grants, or
10 otherwise increase the fundraising and op-
11 eration of such group.

12 (Q) A program that provides for the provi-
13 sion of technical assistance and informational
14 materials on the Internet that relate to any pro-
15 gram described in subparagraphs (A) through
16 (P).

17 (R) A program to coordinate activities of
18 community-based nonprofit feeding and anti-
19 hunger groups within the pilot community, in-
20 cluding activities that further any of the fol-
21 lowing goals:

22 (i) Creation of joint advertising, com-
23 munications, and referral systems.

24 (ii) Coordination of hours of oper-
25 ations and services provided.

1 (iii) Creation of joint client, funding,
2 and other databases, tracking systems, and
3 benefits referral systems.

4 (iv) Implementation of joint activities
5 to reduce hunger, strengthen local food
6 systems, reduce poverty, improve economic
7 self-sufficiency, and reduce obesity.

8 (2) ELIGIBLE FOOD-RELATED USES.—Subject
9 to the limitation in subsection (c)(1), any of the fol-
10 lowing food-related purposes:

11 (A) Gathering food.

12 (B) The collection of perishable, but safe,
13 food from entities such as restaurants, caterers,
14 and farms, for distribution to a target popu-
15 lation.

16 (C) Packing food.

17 (D) Sorting food.

18 (E) Processing food.

19 (F) Transportation of food.

20 (G) Heating, cooling, or freezing of food.

21 (H) Storage of food.

22 (I) Administrative expenses necessary to
23 increase the supply of nutritious food (especially
24 fresh fruit and vegetables) distributed by com-

1 community-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger
2 groups.

3 (J) Administrative staff and volunteer
4 management for purposes of performing activi-
5 ties listed in subparagraphs (A) through (H).

6 (3) ELIGIBLE STIPENDS.—For the provision of
7 stipends to customers for expenses incurred by such
8 customers for participating in a customer advisory
9 council described in subsection (b)(1)(K).

10 (c) LIMITATIONS.—

11 (1) LIMITATION ON FOOD PURCHASES.—No
12 more than 20 percent of the total amount of grant
13 funds awarded to a primary community-based non-
14 profit feeding and anti-hunger group or allocated to
15 a subgrantee under the pilot program may be used
16 to directly purchase food.

17 (2) LIMITATION ON FUNDS EXPENDED TO NA-
18 TIONAL OR COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM.—Grant
19 funds awarded to a primary community-based non-
20 profit feeding and anti-hunger group or allocated to
21 a subgrantee under the pilot program may not be
22 used to provide a volunteer in a national or commu-
23 nity service program listed in subsection (b)(1)(L)
24 with any educational funding, stipend, health care,
25 or child care.

1 **SEC. 205. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**

2 (a) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS.—Under the
3 pilot program and for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall
4 award grants to technical assistance community-based
5 nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger groups, in accordance
6 with this section.

7 (b) APPLICATION FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
8 GRANTS.—To be eligible for an award of a grant under
9 this section, a technical assistance community-based non-
10 profit feeding and anti-hunger group shall submit to the
11 Secretary an application containing a description of how
12 the applicant proposes to use the grant funds to provide
13 technical assistance to all pilot communities. The applica-
14 tion shall be submitted in such form, at such time, and
15 containing such other information as the Secretary may
16 require.

17 (c) CRITERIA TO RECEIVE GRANTS.—In evaluating
18 an application of a technical assistance community-based
19 nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger group, the Secretary
20 shall consider, in addition to such other criteria as the
21 Secretary determines appropriate, the extent to which the
22 application of the technical assistance group demonstrates
23 the following:

24 (1) The ability to provide capacity-building
25 technical assistance to community-based nonprofit
26 feeding and anti-hunger groups.

1 (2) Organizational and staff experience in—

2 (A) national issues related to emergency
3 food programs, food banks, food rescue organi-
4 zations, the hunger problem, food insecurity,
5 anti-poverty programs, and nutrition education;

6 (B) providing technical assistance to com-
7 munity-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger
8 groups and conducting outreach programs on
9 nutrition assistance and anti-poverty programs;

10 (C) successfully working with national and
11 community service programs, including such
12 programs listed in section 204(b)(1)(L);

13 (D) working cooperatively or in a leader-
14 ship role with other national, regional, State,
15 and local eligible technical entities; and

16 (E) working with a wide variety of faith-
17 based and community organizations and with
18 community-wide religious and civic organiza-
19 tions.

20 (3) Proven financial control mechanisms and
21 staff expertise to work with large Federal and pri-
22 vate grants, or in the case of a technical assistance
23 community-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger
24 group with a small operating budget, effectiveness in
25 program delivery and coordination.

1 (d) DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TECHNICAL AS-
2 SISTANCE AUTHORIZED.—

3 (1) ASSISTANCE FROM DEPARTMENT OF AGRI-
4 CULTURE.—The Secretary may provide technical
5 and evaluation assistance to—

6 (A) a technical assistance community-
7 based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger group
8 awarded a grant under subsection (a);

9 (B) a primary community-based nonprofit
10 feeding and anti-hunger group awarded a grant
11 under section 203(a) or a subgrantee selected
12 under section 203(e); or

13 (C) any community-based nonprofit feed-
14 ing and anti-hunger group or technical assist-
15 ance community-based nonprofit feeding and
16 anti-hunger group that does not receive a grant
17 under this Act, but that carries out activities
18 similar to those of such a group or subgrantee.

19 (2) ASSISTANCE FROM FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS
20 AND AGENCIES.—The head of any Federal depart-
21 ment or agency may provide technical assistance to
22 a group or subgrantee referred to in subparagraph
23 (A), (B), or (C) of paragraph (1) to carry out activi-
24 ties described in subparagraph (C) of such para-
25 graph.

1 (3) ASSISTANCE FROM STATE AND LOCAL
2 AGENCIES AND LAND-GRANT COLLEGES AND UNI-
3 VERSITIES.—The Secretary may encourage any ap-
4 propriate State or local agency or land-grant college
5 or university to provide technical assistance to such
6 groups or subgrantees to carry out such activities.

7 **SEC. 206. ALLOCATION OF GRANTS.**

8 (a) ALLOCATION BY TYPE OF GRANT.—Of the
9 amounts made available to carry out this title for a fiscal
10 year—

11 (1) \$190,000,000 is available for grants to pri-
12 mary community-based nonprofit feeding and anti-
13 hunger groups authorized under section 203(a); and

14 (2) \$8,000,000 is available for technical assist-
15 ance grants authorized under section 205(a).

16 (b) ALLOCATION TO PILOT COMMUNITIES.—Of the
17 amounts made available under subsection (a)(1) to pri-
18 mary community-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger
19 groups for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall allocate such
20 amounts to one primary community-based nonprofit feed-
21 ing and anti-hunger group in each of the pilot commu-
22 nities listed in subsection (c) and may allocate such
23 amounts to one such group in each pilot community des-
24 ignated by the Secretary under subsection (d)(2). The

1 amount allocated to a primary community-based nonprofit
2 feeding and anti-hunger group—

3 (1) shall not be less than \$500,000, nor more
4 than \$20,000,000; and

5 (2) shall be in proportion to the number of indi-
6 viduals and families within the target population of
7 the pilot community involved.

8 (c) PILOT COMMUNITIES LISTED.—For purposes of
9 subsection (b), a pilot community listed in this subsection
10 is each of the following areas:

11 (1) New York, New York.

12 (2) Chicago, Illinois.

13 (3) Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

14 (4) Puerto Rico.

15 (5) Indianapolis, Indiana.

16 (6) Des Moines, Iowa.

17 (7) Toledo, Ohio.

18 (8) Savannah, Georgia.

19 (9) New Haven, Connecticut.

20 (10) Roanoke, Virginia.

21 (11) Santa Cruz County, Santa Clara County,

22 and Monterey County in California.

23 (12) Onondaga County in New York.

24 (13) The rural boroughs in Alaska.

25 (14) Washington metropolitan region.

1 (15) Pittsburgh and the suburban and rural
2 areas in southwestern Pennsylvania.

3 (16) Rural counties in eastern Kentucky.

4 (17) Counties in northern West Virginia.

5 (18) Rural counties in southern Texas.

6 (19) Rural counties in southern Missouri.

7 (20) Rural counties in north, west, and central
8 Wisconsin.

9 (d) SPECIFICATION OF AREAS; DESIGNATION OF AD-
10 DITIONAL PILOT COMMUNITIES.—

11 (1) SPECIFICATION OF AREAS.—The Secretary
12 shall specify the counties or other areas to be in-
13 cluded in each of the pilot communities described in
14 paragraphs (15) through (20) of subsection (c).

15 (2) DESIGNATION OF ADDITIONAL PILOT COM-
16 MUNITIES.—The Secretary may designate not more
17 than 10 pilot communities in addition to those listed
18 in subsection (c).

19 **SEC. 207. REPORTS AND EVALUATION.**

20 (a) SUBGRANTEE REPORT TO PRIMARY COMMUNITY-
21 BASED NONPROFIT FEEDING AND ANTI-HUNGER
22 GROUP.—Not later than 90 days after the end of the fiscal
23 year for which a subgrantee received a subgrant under sec-
24 tion 203(e), the subgrantee shall submit to the primary
25 community-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger group

1 that selected the subgrantee under such section a report
2 that evaluates the results of the activities, including finan-
3 cial expenditures, during such fiscal year of the subgrantee
4 in carrying out the subgrant.

5 (b) PRIMARY COMMUNITY-BASED NONPROFIT FEED-
6 ING AND ANTI-HUNGER GROUP REPORTS TO SEC-
7 RETARY.—Not later than 180 days after the end of the
8 fiscal year for which a primary community-based nonprofit
9 feeding and anti-hunger group received a grant under sec-
10 tion 203(a), the group shall submit to the Secretary a re-
11 port that evaluates the results of the activities, including
12 financial expenditures, during the preceding fiscal year of
13 the group in carrying out the grant. Such report shall in-
14 clude each report submitted to the group by a subgrantee
15 under subsection (a) for such fiscal year.

16 (c) ANNUAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later
17 than October 31 of each of calendar years 2016 through
18 2020, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on
19 the progress of the pilot program.

20 (d) FINAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
21 April 30, 2020, the Secretary shall submit to Congress
22 a report that evaluates the successes and challenges of the
23 pilot program and that makes such recommendations as
24 the Secretary considers appropriate for similar future
25 grants programs.

1 **SEC. 208. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.**

2 (a) ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF GRANTS.—

3 (1) BEYOND THE SOUP KITCHEN GRANTS.—

4 Upon the expiration of a grant awarded to a com-
5 munity-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger
6 group under section 203(a) and the request of such
7 group, the Secretary, in accordance with procedures
8 established by the Secretary, may extend the dura-
9 tion of the grant once, by one fiscal year, if the Sec-
10 retary determines that the programs established and
11 implemented by such group with the grant resulted
12 in (or are likely to result in) significant progress in
13 satisfying the purposes of the pilot program de-
14 scribed in section 203(c)(1).

15 (2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS.—Upon
16 the expiration of a grant awarded to a technical as-
17 sistance community-based nonprofit feeding and
18 anti-hunger group under section 205(a) and the re-
19 quest of such entity, the Secretary, in accordance
20 with procedures established by the Secretary, may
21 extend the duration of the grant once, by one fiscal
22 year, if the Secretary determines that such technical
23 assistance group has successfully provided all pilot
24 programs with technical assistance.

25 (b) FORM OF GRANTS.—The Secretary, if the Sec-
26 retary finds it appropriate, may use cooperative agree-

1 ments, as described in section 6305 of title 31, United
2 States Code, for purposes of awarding grants to primary
3 community-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger
4 groups under section 203(a) and to technical assistance
5 community-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger
6 groups under section 205(a).

7 **SEC. 209. DEFINITIONS.**

8 In this title:

9 (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
10 the Secretary of Agriculture.

11 (2) PILOT PROGRAM.—The term “pilot pro-
12 gram” means the Beyond the Soup Kitchen Pilot
13 Program established under section 202(a).

14 (3) COMMUNITY-BASED NONPROFIT FEEDING
15 AND ANTI-HUNGER GROUP.—The term “community-
16 based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger group”
17 means an anti-hunger organization, food bank, food
18 pantry, soup kitchen, food rescue group, or commu-
19 nity food security organization that—

20 (A) is described in section 501(c)(3) of the
21 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt
22 from tax under section 501(a) of such Code;
23 and

24 (B) is located in (or regularly provides
25 service to) a pilot community.

1 (4) PRIMARY COMMUNITY-BASED NONPROFIT
2 FEEDING AND ANTI-HUNGER GROUP.—The term
3 “primary community-based nonprofit feeding and
4 anti-hunger group” means a community-based non-
5 profit feeding and anti-hunger group awarded a
6 grant under section 203(a).

7 (5) SUBGRANTEE.—The term “subgrantee”
8 means a community-based nonprofit feeding and
9 anti-hunger group (other than a primary commu-
10 nity-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger
11 group)—

12 (A) that is selected under section 203(e)
13 by a primary community-based nonprofit feed-
14 ing and anti-hunger group; and

15 (B) that is located in (or regularly provides
16 service to) the pilot community in which the
17 primary nonprofit feeding group is located (or
18 to which the primary nonprofit feeding group
19 provides regular service).

20 (6) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMMUNITY-BASED
21 NONPROFIT FEEDING AND ANTI-HUNGER GROUP.—
22 The term “technical assistance community-based
23 nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger group” means a
24 national, State, or local group that—

1 (A) is an anti-hunger group, food bank,
2 food pantry, soup kitchen, food rescue group, or
3 community food security organization;

4 (B) is described in section 501(c)(3) of the
5 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt
6 from tax under section 501(a) of such Code;
7 and

8 (C) has the capacity to provide technical
9 assistance to all pilot communities.

10 (7) PILOT COMMUNITY.—The term “pilot com-
11 munity” means a community specified in section
12 206(b).

13 (8) TARGET POPULATION.—The term “target
14 population” includes an individual who (or family
15 that)—

16 (A) earns an income below 200 percent of
17 the Federal poverty line;

18 (B) suffers from food insecurity;

19 (C) earns insufficient income to ensure
20 food security for such individual or family;

21 (D) lives in a community that suffers from
22 poverty, hunger, or food insecurity;

23 (E) is homeless;

24 (F) receives (or recently received) assist-
25 ance under a State program funded under part

1 A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42
2 U.S.C. et seq.), relating to temporary assistance
3 to needy families; or

4 (G) is eligible for benefits under any nutri-
5 tion assistance or anti-poverty program.

6 (9) NUTRITION ASSISTANCE AND ANTI-POVERTY
7 PROGRAM.—The term “nutrition assistance and
8 anti-poverty program” means any Federal, State, or
9 local government assistance program offered to low-
10 income individuals or families, including the fol-
11 lowing programs:

12 (A) The supplemental nutrition assistance
13 program established under section 4 of the
14 Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C.
15 2013).

16 (B) A program authorized under the Rich-
17 ard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42
18 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) or Child Nutrition Act of
19 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), including the
20 national school lunch program, the national
21 school breakfast program, the summer food
22 service program for children, the special supple-
23 mental nutrition program for women, infants,
24 and children, and the child and adult care food
25 program.

1 (C) The earned income tax credit allowed
2 under section 32 of the Internal Revenue Code
3 of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 32).

4 (10) FOOD INSECURITY.—The term “food inse-
5 curity” means a lack of consistent access to food.

6 (11) WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN REGION.—
7 The term “Washington metropolitan region” in-
8 cludes the District of Columbia, the counties of
9 Montgomery and Prince George’s in Maryland, and
10 the counties of Arlington and Fairfax and the cities
11 of Alexandria and Falls Church in Virginia.

12 **SEC. 210. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

13 There is authorized to be appropriated \$200,000,000
14 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 to carry out
15 this title.

16 **TITLE III—EFFECTIVE DATE**

17 **SEC. 301. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

18 Except as otherwise provided in this Act, this Act and
19 the amendments made by this Act shall take effect on Oc-
20 tober 1, 2015.

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