

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3815

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to make grants to carry out gleaning projects.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 21, 2017

Mr. LAWSON of Florida (for himself, Mr. DEUTCH, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

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## A BILL

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to make grants to carry out gleaning projects.

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 “Food Sharing Act of  
5 2017”.

**6 SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS.**

7       (a) ASSISTANCE FOR COMMUNITY FOOD  
8 PROJECTS.—Section 25 of the Food and Nutrition Act of  
9 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2034) is amended—

1                         (1) in subsection (b)(2)—

2                             (A) in subparagraph (B) by striking “and”  
3                             at the end; and

4                             (B) by striking subparagraph (C) and in-  
5                             serting the following:

6                             “(C) \$9,000,000 for each of the fiscal  
7                             years 2015 through 2017; and

8                             “(D) \$8,500,000 for fiscal year 2018 and  
9                             each fiscal year thereafter.”.

10                         (b) ASSISTANCE FOR GLEANING PROJECTS.—The  
11 Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.)  
12 is amended by adding at the end the following:

13                         **“SEC. 30. ASSISTANCE FOR GLEANING PROJECTS.**

14                         “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15                         “(1) GLEANING PROJECT.—The term ‘gleaning  
16 project’ means a project in which an entity—

17                             “(A) collects edible, surplus food that  
18 would be thrown away and distributes the food  
19 to agencies or nonprofit organizations that feed  
20 the hungry; or

21                             “(B) harvests for free distribution to the  
22 needy, or for donation to agencies or nonprofit  
23 organizations for ultimate distribution to the  
24 needy, an agricultural crop that has been do-  
25 nated by the owner of the crop.

1               “(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-  
2       tity’ means a public food program service provider,  
3       a tribal organization, or a private nonprofit entity  
4       that—

5               “(A) has experience in the area of—  
6                       “(i) providing food to individuals in  
7       low-income communities; or  
8                       “(ii) engaging in efforts to reduce  
9       food insecurity in low-income communities,  
10      including food distribution, improving ac-  
11      cess to services, or coordinating services  
12      and programs;  
13               “(B) demonstrates competency to imple-  
14      ment a gleaning project, to provide fiscal ac-  
15      countability, to collect data, and to prepare re-  
16      ports and other necessary documentation relat-  
17      ing to such project;  
18               “(C) demonstrates a willingness to share  
19      information relating to such project with re-  
20      searchers, practitioners, and other persons; and  
21               “(D) submits to the Secretary an applica-  
22      tion that contains such terms and conditions as  
23      the Secretary may require by rule, including an  
24      agreement to provide the non-Federal cost of  
25      such project.

1       “(b) AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE.—

2           “(1) FUNDS.—From amounts made available to  
3       carry out this Act, the Secretary may make grants  
4       to assist eligible entities to establish and carry out  
5       gleaning projects.

6           “(2) LIMITATION ON GRANTS.—The aggregate  
7       amount of funds provided as grants made under this  
8       section may not exceed \$500,000 for fiscal year  
9       2018 and each fiscal year thereafter.

10       “(c) PREFERENCE FOR CERTAIN GLEANING  
11      PROJECTS.—In selecting gleaning projects to receive  
12      grants under this section, the Secretary shall give pref-  
13      erence to projects designed to develop new resources and  
14      strategies to help reduce food insecurity and prevent food  
15      insecurity in low-income communities that are the subject  
16      of such projects by—

17           “(1) developing creative food resources; or

18           “(2) coordinating food services with park and  
19       recreation programs, and other community-based ac-  
20       tivities, to reduce barriers to access to food.

21       “(d) COST-SHARING REQUIREMENTS.—

22           “(1) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of  
23       the cost of carrying out a gleaning project for which  
24       a grant is made under this section shall be paid with  
25       such grant by the Secretary in such amount as the

1      Secretary determines but may not exceed 50 percent  
2      of the cost of such project.

3           “(2) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The recipient of a  
4      grant under this section shall provide in cash or in  
5      kind, fairly evaluated, including facilities, equipment,  
6      or services, from non-Federal sources for the cost of  
7      such project that is not paid under paragraph (1).

8           “(e) TERM OF GRANT.—

9           “(1) SINGLE GRANT.—Only 1 grant may be  
10     made under this section for a particular gleaning  
11     project.

12           “(2) TERM.—The period during which the  
13     grant made under this section may be expended may  
14     not exceed 5 years.

15           “(f) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND RELATED INFOR-  
16     MATION.—

17           “(1) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—In carrying out  
18     this section, the Secretary may provide assistance to  
19     an eligible entity regarding gleaning projects, proc-  
20     esses, and development.

21           “(2) SHARING INFORMATION.—

22           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may  
23     share information concerning gleaning projects  
24     and issues with the public through publications,  
25     conferences, and other appropriate forums.

1                 “(B) OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS.—The  
2                 Secretary may share information concerning  
3                 gleaning projects with researchers, practi-  
4                 tioners, and other interested persons.

5                 “(g) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than Sep-  
6                 tember 30, 2018, and annually thereafter, the Secretary  
7                 shall submit to the Congress a report that describes with  
8                 respect to each grant made under this section information  
9                 that includes—

10                 “(1) a description of each activity funded with  
11                 such grant; and

12                 “(2) the degree of success in improving the  
13                 long-term capacity of the low-income community  
14                 served by the gleaning project involved to address  
15                 food and agriculture problems related to hunger or  
16                 access to healthy food in such community.”.

