

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7161

To amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to make a permanent program for the procurement of unprocessed fruits and vegetables to provide healthier school meals, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 16, 2018

Mr. WELCH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## A BILL

To amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to make a permanent program for the procurement of unprocessed fruits and vegetables to provide healthier school meals, 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.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Local School Foods  
5       Expansion Act of 2018”.

6       **SEC. 2. HELPING SCHOOLS SERVE HEALTHIER MEALS.**

7       Section 6(f) of the Richard B. Russell National  
8       School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1755(f)) is amended—

1                             (1) in the heading, by striking “PILOT  
2 PROJECT FOR PROCUREMENT OF UNPROCESSED  
3 FRUITS AND VEGETABLES” and inserting “PRO-  
4 GRAM FOR PROCUREMENT OF DOMESTICALLY  
5 GROWN UNPROCESSED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES”;

6                             (2) by striking “pilot project” each place it ap-  
7 pears and inserting “program”;

8                             (3) by amending paragraph (1) to read as fol-  
9 lows:

10                             “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry  
11 out a program to facilitate the procurement of do-  
12 mestically grown unprocessed fruits and vegetables  
13 in not fewer than 15 States receiving funds under  
14 this Act.”;

15                             (4) in paragraph (2), by inserting “domestically  
16 grown” before “unprocessed”;

17                             (5) in paragraph (4)—

18                                 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
19                                 “and” at the end;

20                                 (B) in subparagraph (C), by striking the  
21                                 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

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

23                                 “(D) the demonstrated ability of the States  
24                                 to competitively procure the domestically grown  
25                                 unprocessed fruits and vegetables.”;

1                             (6) in paragraph (5)—

2                                 (A) in the heading, by striking “AND RE-  
3                                 PORTING REQUIREMENTS” and inserting “, RE-  
4                                 PORTING REQUIREMENTS, AND EVALUATIONS”;

5                                 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

6                                 (i) in clause (i), by striking “and” at  
7                                 the end;

8                                 (ii) in clause (ii), by striking the pe-  
9                                 riod and inserting “; and”; and

10                                 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
11                                 lowing:

12                                 “(iii) the States’ assessment of the  
13                                 challenges and opportunities presented by  
14                                 the program.”; and

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

16                                 “(C) PROGRAM EVALUATION.—

17                                 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2  
18                                 years after the date of the enactment of  
19                                 this subparagraph, the Secretary shall  
20                                 evaluate the impact of the program, includ-  
21                                 ing information on—

22                                 “(I) the quantity and cost of  
23                                 each type of unprocessed fruit and  
24                                 vegetable procured by each State  
25                                 under the program;

1                         “(II) the benefit of such procure-  
2                         ment in conducting school food service  
3                         in each such State, including meeting  
4                         school meal requirements; and

5                         “(III) the economic impact the  
6                         program has had on agricultural pro-  
7                         ducers in each such State.

8                         “(ii) REPORT.—Not later than 4  
9                         years after the date of enactment of this  
10                        subparagraph, the Secretary shall submit  
11                        to the Committee on Agriculture of the  
12                        House Representatives and the Committee  
13                        on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of  
14                        the Senate a report that includes the re-  
15                        sults and an analysis of the evaluation re-  
16                        quired under clause (i).”; and

17                       (7) by adding at the end the following new  
18                       paragraph:

19                       “(6) FUNDING.—

20                       “(A) MANDATORY FUNDING.—There is ap-  
21                       propriated to carry out this section  
22                       \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019  
23                       through 2023.

24                       “(B) RESERVATION.—Of the funds appro-  
25                       priated under subparagraph (A) for a fiscal

1           year, \$10,000,000 shall be reserved for States  
2           selected pursuant to paragraph (1) to carry out  
3           State program administration and provide tech-  
4           nical assistance and outreach to vendors to be-  
5           come certified to participate in the program  
6           under this section.

7                 “(C) MINIMUM ALLOTMENT.—Of the  
8           funds reserved under subparagraph (B), each  
9           State selected pursuant to paragraph (1) shall  
10          receive not less than \$300,000 for each fiscal  
11          year during which such State participates in the  
12          program under this section.”.

