

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7916

To temporarily waive section 115 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 as applied to the TANF and SNAP programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 31, 2020

Ms. MOORE (for herself, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. BASS, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. RUSH, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. FOSTER, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. TRONE, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. EVANS, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. NORTON, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. CLAY, Mr. COOPER, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. NADLER, Ms. OMAR, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. TAKANO, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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 temporarily waive section 115 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 as applied to the TANF and SNAP programs, 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 “Removing Barriers to
3 Basic Needs Act of 2020”.

4 **SEC. 2. EMERGENCY EXTENSION OF SNAP AND TANF BENE-**
5 **FITS.**

6 (a) **APPLICABILITY OF BAN ON SNAP AND TANF**
7 **BENEFITS.**—Section 115 of the Personal Responsibility
8 and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (21
9 U.S.C. 862a) shall not apply to any individual applying
10 for benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance
11 program and temporary assistance for needy families pro-
12 gram.

13 (b) **EFFECT ON STATE POLICIES.**—Any law enacted
14 by a State under the authority under subparagraph (A)
15 or (B) of subsection (d)(1) of section 115 of the Personal
16 Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act
17 of 1996 (21 U.S.C. 862a), and any State law, policy, or
18 regulation that imposes conditions on eligibility for the
19 supplemental nutrition assistance program and temporary
20 assistance for needy families program based on an individ-
21 ual’s conviction of an offense related to a controlled sub-
22 stance, shall have no force or effect until the date specified
23 in subsection (c).

24 (c) **SUNSET.**—The authority under this section shall
25 be in effect beginning on the date of enactment of this
26 Act and until December 31, 2022.

1 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

2 (1) STATE.—The term “State” has the mean-
3 ing given such term in section 3(r) of the Food and
4 Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012(r)).

5 (2) SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE
6 PROGRAM.—The term “supplemental nutrition as-
7 sistance program” has the meaning given such term
8 in section 3(t) of the Food and Nutrition Act of
9 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012(t)).

10 (3) TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMI-
11 LIES PROGRAM.—The term “temporary assistance
12 for needy families program” has the meaning given
13 such term in section 401 of Personal Responsibility
14 and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996
15 (42 U.S.C. 601(a)).

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