

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5526

To amend the Richard B. Russell School Lunch Act to increase access to mental health resources, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 8, 2021

Ms. MANNING (for herself and Mrs. HARTZLER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Richard B. Russell School Lunch Act to increase access to mental health resources, 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 “Improving Mental
5 Health and Wellness in Schools Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. LOCAL SCHOOL WELLNESS POLICY RESOURCES.**

7 Section 9A of the Richard B. Russell National School
8 Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1758b) is amended—

9 (1) in subsection (b)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting after
2 “physical activity,” the following: “mental
3 health promotion and education,”;

4 (B) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting be-
5 fore the semicolon at the end the following:
6 “and eating disorders”; and

7 (C) in paragraph (3), by inserting after
8 “school administrators,” the following: “reg-
9 istered dietitians, school-based mental health
10 services providers,”;

11 (2) in subsection (d)—

12 (A) in paragraph (1)—

13 (i) by inserting after “in consultation
14 with” the following: “the Administrator of
15 the Substance Abuse and Mental Health
16 Services Administration,”;

17 (ii) by inserting a comma after “Sec-
18 retary of Education”; and

19 (iii) by inserting after “school food
20 authorities” the following: “, school health
21 professionals (including school-based men-
22 tal health services providers when avail-
23 able)”;

24 (B) by striking paragraph (2)(C), and in-
25 serting the following new subparagraph:

1 “(C) includes such other technical assist-
2 ance as is required to promote—

3 “(i) sound nutrition and establish
4 healthy school nutrition environments; and

5 “(ii) mental health, encourage mental
6 health assessments, and establish resilient
7 school environments; and”;

8 (C) in paragraph (3)—

9 (i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting
10 after “Centers for Disease Control and
11 Prevention” the following: “and the Ad-
12 ministrators of the Substance Abuse and
13 Mental Health Services Administration”;

14 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking
15 “2014” and inserting “2026”; and

16 (iii) in subparagraph (D)—

17 (I) by striking “\$3,000,000” and
18 inserting “\$5,000,000”; and

19 (II) by striking “2011” and in-
20 serting “2023”.

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