

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 7522

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to repeal the particular work requirement that disqualifies able-bodied adults for eligibility to participate in the supplemental nutrition assistance program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 12, 2026

Ms. ADAMS (for herself, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. SIMON, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. NORTON, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. FIELDS, Ms. RIVAS, and Mr. CORREA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to repeal the particular work requirement that disqualifies able-bodied adults for eligibility to participate in the supplemental nutrition assistance program.

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 Access to
5 Nutrition Act of 2026”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) SNAP helps restore access to healthy food,
2 improves overall health, and reduces poverty. SNAP
3 participation is also associated with educational ad-
4 vancement of children in poverty and improvements
5 in math and reading scores.

6 (2) SNAP has a proven record of effectiveness
7 in promoting food security and health as well as in
8 providing economic stimulus. Each \$1 in SNAP ben-
9 efits during a downturn generates between \$1.50
10 and \$1.80 in economic activity.

11 (3) Studies have also demonstrated that work
12 requirements do not reduce poverty.

13 (4) About 6.1 million individuals are subject to
14 SNAP work requirements and are at risk of losing
15 critical food assistance if they cannot comply.

16 (5) Some live in households with school-aged
17 children where benefit reductions or terminations
18 could jeopardize children's health, development, and
19 future success.

20 (6) Children in poverty also often depend on
21 pooled resources (including SNAP benefits) from ex-
22 tended family members who do not claim them as
23 dependents.

1 (7) Studies show that health impediments are a
2 primary cause of why many SNAP recipients are un-
3 able to meet a work requirement.

4 (8) Work requirements also cause an increase
5 in the administrative bureaucracy, which some stud-
6 ies have shown, cause a significant reduction in
7 SNAP participation.

8 (9) Studies show that Black Americans are par-
9 ticularly vulnerable and are most likely to face re-
10 cent unemployment, and work requirements would
11 disproportionately prevent Black people from having
12 access to this important benefit.

13 (10) Families experiencing homelessness are
14 most likely to leave programs like SNAP when there
15 is a work requirement, thereby increasing their vul-
16 nerability.

17 **SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS.**

18 (a) WORK REQUIREMENT.—Section 6 of the Food
19 and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2015) is amended—

20 (1) in subsections (d)(4)(B)(ii)(I)(bb),
21 (d)(4)(N)(iii)(I)(bb), (d)(4)(N)(iv)(II), and
22 (d)(4)(N)(v)(IV) by striking “or subsection (o)”, and

23 (2) by striking subsection (o).

24 (b) ADDITIONAL ALLOCATIONS FOR STATES THAT
25 ENSURE AVAILABILITY OF WORK OPPORTUNITIES.—Sec-

1 tion 16(h)(1) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7
 2 U.S.C. 2025(h)(1)) is amended by striking subparagraph
 3 (E).

4 (c) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—

5 (1) Section 7(i)(1) of the Food and Nutrition
 6 Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2016(i)(1)) is amended by
 7 striking “section 6(o)(2) of this Act or”.

8 (2) Section 16(h) of the Food and Nutrition
 9 Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2025(h)) is amended—

10 (A) in paragraph (1)—

11 (i) in subparagraph (B)—

12 (I) by striking “that—” and all
 13 that follows through “(I)”, and

14 (II) by striking “; and” and all
 15 that follows through “6(o)”, and

16 (ii) in subparagraph
 17 (F)(ii)(III)(ee)(AA) by striking “, individ-
 18 uals subject to the requirements under sec-
 19 tion 6(o),”, and

20 (B) in paragraph (5)(C)—

21 (i) in clause (ii) by inserting “and” at
 22 the end, and

23 (ii) in clause (iii) by striking “; and”
 24 and all that follows through “appropriate”.

1 **SEC. 4. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

2 (a) INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.—Section
3 51(d)(8)(A)(ii) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26
4 U.S.C. 51(d)(8)(A)(ii)) is amended—

5 (1) by striking “family—” and all that follows
6 through “(I)” and inserting “family”, and

7 (2) by striking “, or” and all that follows
8 through “of 2008”.

9 (b) WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY
10 ACT.—The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
11 (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) is amended—

12 (1) in section 103(a)(2) by striking subpara-
13 graph (D), and

14 (2) in section 121(b)(2)(B) by striking clause
15 (iv).

16 **SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS.**

17 (a) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as provided in sub-
18 section (b), this Act and the amendments made by this
19 Act shall take effect 180 days after the date of enactment
20 of this Act.

21 (b) APPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS.—

22 (1) The amendments made by section 2 shall
23 not apply with respect to an allotment issued under
24 the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011
25 et seq.) before the effective date of this Act.

1 (2) The amendments made by section 3(a) shall
2 not apply to individuals hired before the expiration
3 of the 90-day period that begins on the effective
4 date of this Act.

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