

school in Washington, DC. He then served as a legal officer before retiring from the Marine Corps after 22 years of service. He then returned home to Southern Indiana, settling in Columbus with his wife and daughters.

Lieutenant Colonel David served his country with honor during his time in the Marine Corps, and he did the same for his community after the war concluded. He was elected a superior court judge, practiced law for nearly 20 years, and after retiring, he served as a senior judge. As a lawyer, he was dedicated to his clients. As a judge, he treated the attorneys before him thoughtfully, reasoning they were his clients as well.

When he died in 2016, it was after living a life defined by what he learned in the U.S. Marine Corps: integrity, devotion to justice, service of a cause greater than oneself.

These men were courageous too. In fact, the man to Lieutenant Colonel David's right in the photo was Leonard Alford of Garrett, IN. A year after he stood at the memorial plaque in Bloomington, Alford sat in a tent staring at the Pacific Ocean.

"I know you have been worried because you have not heard from me," he wrote to his parents from an island he was not at liberty to name.

He had earned a Silver Star leading the men of the 4th Marine Raider Battalion in the Battle of New Georgia as his men fought across the Solomon Islands. Afterwards, they were redesignated the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines, and Alford was made company captain. Members of the original 4th Marine Regiment were lost on Bataan and Corregidor.

"We hope to be able to keep their good name," he shared with his family. Because of Captain Alford's courage, they did.

Two years later, when Captain Alford was awarded a second Silver Star, which was turned to Gold, it was awarded posthumously.

In the closing weeks of the Okinawa campaign, he led a charge towards one of the island's remaining Japanese strongholds. Under heavy fire, ignoring his safety, he steadied the marines, ensured their advance, and he sacrificed his life for the success of the campaign and the freedom of his country.

Oh, they were committed too. In fact, the last man in the photo was Cpl John Irwin Murray of Hartford City, IN. In the years after the photo was taken, John Murray remained on campus, drilling with Pershing Rifles.

After graduation, he trained on Parais Island. Corporal Murray spent 16 months on Guadalcanal and Guam. He then deployed to China with the 6th Marine Division.

After the war, he settled in California, where he married and raised a family and worked as an accountant and a teacher.

Unlike the two other marines in this photo, there is very little public information about Corporal Murray's life—

occasional updates in the Indiana University alumni magazine on his time in the Marine Corps, his letters home from the Pacific lamenting how few other Hoosiers he met there. But you see, he lived a meaningful civilian life, without fanfare.

Commitment to duty doesn't demand glory or a long military career; it is about showing up when needed and then quietly contributing to society afterwards. Our service continues in the everyday work of building communities and supporting families.

Corporal Murray represents something essential about the Marine Corps. Most of us who serve will return to become good citizens, neighbors, and workers, carrying a sense of duty into ordinary life. That is not less important than the other two paths; it is an expression of the same commitment.

Whether on land, sea, or air, in war or peace, in service or after service, for 250 years, the U.S. Marine Corps has not just trained warriors but made citizens. There are no fiercer defenders of our freedom, no greater examples of the virtues that make our Republic function.

So as we celebrate this great anniversary throughout the month of November, we thank and salute the men in that photo and every member of the U.S. Marine Corps—always faithful—for their service and for their sacrifices. It is impossible to imagine America without the Marines.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I ask that we commence with the previously scheduled vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The joint resolution was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

VOTE ON H.J. RES. 130

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

Mr. PAUL. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr.

FETTERMAN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 623 Leg.]

YEAS—51

Banks	Fischer	Moody
Barrasso	Graham	Moran
Blackburn	Grassley	Moreno
Boozman	Hagerty	Murkowski
Britt	Hawley	Paul
Budd	Hoeven	Ricketts
Capito	Husted	Risch
Cassidy	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Collins	Johnson	Schmitt
Cornyn	Justice	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Kennedy	Sheehy
Cramer	Lankford	Sullivan
Crapo	Lee	Thune
Cruz	Lummis	Tillis
Curtis	Marshall	Tuberville
Daines	McConnell	Wicker
Ernst	McCormick	Young

NAYS—43

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Baldwin	Hirono	Schatz
Bennet	Kaine	Schiff
Blumenthal	Kim	Schumer
Blunt Rochester	King	Shaheen
Booker	Lujan	Slotkin
Cantwell	Markey	Smith
Coons	Merkley	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Murphy	Warner
Duckworth	Murray	Warnock
Durbin	Ossoff	Welch
Gallego	Padilla	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Hassan	Reed	
Heinrich	Rosen	

NOT VOTING—6

Fetterman	Klobuchar	Scott (SC)
Kelly	Mullin	Warren

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 130) was passed.

(Mr. MORENO assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. CURTIS assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MORENO). The Senator from Kansas.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to use a prop during my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

WHOLE MILK FOR HEALTHY KIDS ACT OF 2025

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, before I start talking today, I just want to pause for a moment to take a quick drink of the most nutritious, delicious drink known to humankind. So here is to healthy bones and here is to all the hard-working dairy farmers across Kansas and across America.

This summer, the Senate Agriculture Committee worked together to pass this legislation through the committee on a bipartisan basis. Special thanks to our chairman and to our ranking member for working on this with us.

This bill will allow for whole and reduced milk, as well as nutritionally equivalent nondairy options, to be served in schools. This corrects a decades-old policy made here in Congress that consequently created over 10 years of kids without having access to whole milk in schools and, indeed, created a whole generation of young Americans with weak bones.

Passing the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act through the Senate is a huge win for schools, for students, for parents, and for American dairy farmers. We are giving students more choices, schools more flexibility, and ensuring a brighter future for our farmers.

Whole milk delivers 13 essential nutrients and has enough fat content to help students absorb vitamins like A, D, E, and K. It is also packed with protein that helps keep the student full all the way through those long afternoon math classes and then on through gym and on through their sports activities, until they get home at night for dinner. Simply put, it is one of the healthiest—it is the healthiest—option in the cafeteria.

Bringing whole milk and nutritionally equivalent beverages to schools would help fight early onset osteoporosis, osteopenia, and other diet-related diseases by providing students with critical nutrients—nutrients like calcium, potassium, and vitamin D—that we are all lacking today.

It strengthens bones. It helps your immune system. It builds healthy habits, and it tastes great.

As the grandson of a dairy farmer, as an OB-GYN for over 30 years, it may seem like I am a bit biased, but I assure you this legislation is a slam-dunk solution for our Nation.

Of course, there is always room to improve our public health, and I look forward to working with our colleagues who, I understand, also have a few thoughts on this legislation.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, I want to thank my colleague the Senator from Kansas, and I wanted to join him in drinking a glass of whole milk. My only regret is it is not Vermont milk, but I have got to tell you the best milk is made in Vermont.

Thank you very much.

As the Senator was saying, this is a very serious thing in two ways. No. 1, we have to have good nutrition for our kids, and the Senator from Kansas has outlined why milk is so good.

Of course, I remember growing up and going to grammar school, and I looked forward to milk. We had milk breaks, and it made a difference to pay attention in those afternoon classes and to be active in your sports activities right after that.

The second reason is that the dairy farming industry is not so much an industry as it is a way of life, and in Vermont, the hardest working people we have are our dairy farmers. It is a

hard, hard job, but it is one where families have done it from generation to generation.

There is enormous pride in being custodians of the landscape and caring for the animals and the herd, and in providing nutritious milk for the community. And there is a lot of pressure on our farmers. This whole milk bill is an acknowledgment of the extraordinary contribution that the dairy farmers in the State of Vermont make to the entire State of Vermont and that the dairy farmers in America make to all of America, including, of course, those wonderful dairy farmers in the great State of Kansas.

Now, on this bill, we have had incredible cooperation from our Senators, who have raised a very important concern: Some people are lactose intolerant. They can't drink milk. And the way the legislation was written—but, actually, because of something that went back to the Truman years—there is some suggestion that is a disability.

I want to thank Senator ALSOBROOKS, who is here, for bringing this to our attention, along with Senator WARNOCK, in working with us to try to get through this so that there is no question about this being a “disability.” This is about folks who can drink milk having access to milk, and it is about honoring our dairy farmers for the work that they do.

I am really happy to be here with my colleague. I understand Senator ALSOBROOKS may have some questions, and I will yield to her for that purpose.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Ms. ALSOBROOKS. Mr. President, I thank Senator WELCH and Senator MARSHALL and my colleagues who are here today and all the members of the Senate Agriculture Committee for their bipartisan work on this legislation.

This legislation rightfully provides more options for parents, students, and teachers, which will benefit our children and their families. Specifically, this legislation will allow schools to provide whole milk, but it also makes it easier for parents to request that their child be provided with a milk alternative, if their child suffers from lactose intolerance.

I do, however, remain concerned about the continued classification of lactose intolerance as a disability. I want to be clear that this issue predates the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act, and the bill does not create this problem.

Lactose intolerance of some degree affects more than 50 percent of the population. The classification of lactose intolerance as a disability can cause confusion for parents, who would not refer to their lactose intolerant child as having a disability, especially given the high prevalence of lactose intolerance. So they may not realize that they can write a letter asking for their child's school to provide a milk alternative, and it creates an undue stigma.

I want to thank my colleagues and their teams for their receptiveness to my concerns.

I especially want to say thank you so much to Senator WELCH and also to Senator MARSHALL, and for the discussions that we and our teams have had around them.

After those discussions, I understand why my colleagues prefer not to use the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act as the vehicle to address these concerns, and therefore, I agreed to lift my hold on the bill in exchange for a commitment from my colleagues to work with me to find an appropriate legislative solution to address this longstanding problem.

Again, I want to thank my colleagues and the members of the Senate Agriculture Committee for their work on this bill that ensures that schools will provide healthy milk and milk alternative options for our children.

I look forward to working with you to further support the children and families in all of our States.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, I want to thank Senator ALSOBROOKS, as usual she is right, and there are two points. One is we want to make certain that the parents have the ability, on behalf of their children, to choose an alternative that is best for their kids. So this is not about forcing people to drink milk or depriving parents of the responsibility and power they have to make certain that their kids are healthy. So thank you so much, Senator ALSOBROOKS, for that.

And then, secondly, the lactose intolerance point the Senator makes is valid, and that is why I am enthusiastically looking forward to working with her, so we make certain there is no stigma associated with a person who is lactose intolerant.

So thank you so much for your cooperation on this, Senator, and you have my commitment to work with you to try to resolve what is an anomaly and shouldn't be there.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I am proud to join my colleagues in emphasizing the importance of whole milk in a healthy school lunch and taking Senate action to ensure a balanced diet for school-age children.

I rise today in support of S. 222, the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act. This legislation, as we discussed, would allow for schools participating in the National School Lunch Program to, once again, offer whole and reduced-fat milk while also expanding the options for nutritious nondairy beverages.

The good news is, this legislation has support in the Senate and was unanimously reported out of the Senate Agriculture Committee earlier this year. My main message today is to thank Senators MARSHALL and WELCH along

with Senator McCORMICK and FETTERMAN for leading the bipartisan legislation and championing policies that promote a balanced diet and increased dairy consumption for students, something dietary experts who testified before the Ag Committee agree is important to their long-term health.

I also appreciate the interest of my colleagues who want to ensure these changes support their constituents, and I look forward to continuing work to secure that result.

I also want to thank Senator ALSOBROOKS for engaging in a very constructive way regarding the bill, and I look forward to continuing to work with her to try and figure out how we can go forward and deal with the comments that she has made or concerns that she has made. I was on the school board for 7 years, and these things are important. Labels are very, very important, so we appreciate you.

I am proud to share a commitment also with her in supporting school meals and to lead the committee in making commonsense updates to strengthen children's capabilities in and out of the classroom. I look forward to continuing our work in the Senate to make sure perspectives and concerns of constituents from Maryland are considered.

Finally, I want to recognize Paul Bleiberg, whose tireless advocacy on behalf of the American dairy farmers helped to ensure this important legislation progressed through the U.S. Senate. I look forward to moving this bill across the finish line in the Senate, and I am hopeful our colleagues in the House can build on this momentum.

Again, thank you, guys, so much for all of your work, your collaboration. This is how this place ought to work, and you are a great example of that.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, before we wrap up this Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act, I just want to go back over a couple things as well. Senator WELCH, it is always a pleasure to work with you. Whether we are trying to connect high-speed internet or give milk to schools, it is always a joy. I appreciate your hard work and greatly appreciate your staff and my staff as well. I think our staff never gets enough credit. They did all the heavy lifting—the chairman and ranking member, of course, and their staff, and the Ag Committee's staff as well.

Senator ALSOBROOKS, thank you so much for coming down this morning and educating me on this disability issue as well. And I see the Senator from New Mexico Mr. LUJÁN is here as well and is also engaged in this effort, and we appreciate his support and many, many, many others.

So a big thanks. This has been a multiyear process for my staff, a personal goal. I was raised on whole milk. I didn't know there was anything ex-

cept whole milk, and I always wondered why all of a sudden our youth weren't drinking any milk.

And just many of us prefer the taste of it, and guess what, nutritionally, I think it has some really great qualities as well.

Mr. President, I would like to ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 111, S. 222.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 222) to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to allow schools that participate in the school lunch program to serve whole milk, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. ORGANIC OR NON-ORGANIC WHOLE MILK PERMISSIBLE.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 9(a)(2) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1758(a)(2)) is amended—

(1) *in subparagraph (A)—*

(A) *by striking clauses (i) and (ii) and inserting the following:*

"(i) shall offer students a variety of fluid milk;

"(ii) may offer students options which may include flavored and unflavored organic or non-organic whole, reduced-fat, low-fat, and fat-free fluid milk and lactose-free fluid milk, and nondairy beverages that are nutritionally equivalent to fluid milk and meet the nutritional standards established by the Secretary (which shall, among other requirements to be determined by the Secretary, include fortification of calcium, protein, vitamin A, and vitamin D to levels found in cow's milk); and"

(B) *in clause (iii), by striking "physician" and inserting "physician, parent, or legal guardian";*

(2) *in subparagraph (C), in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking "fluid milk products" and inserting "products described in subparagraph (A)(ii)"; and*

(3) *by adding at the end the following:*

"(D) SATURATED FAT.—Milk fat included in any fluid milk provided under subparagraph (A) shall not be considered saturated fat for purposes of measuring compliance with the allowable average saturated fat content of a meal under section 210.10 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations).

"(E) APPLICATION.—Subparagraph (B)(ii) is not applicable to a school that offers nondairy beverages under subparagraph (A)(ii)."

(b) *CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—*

(1) *Section 14(f) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1762a(f)) is amended in the third sentence by inserting "or a nondairy beverage that meets the nutritional standards described in section 9(a)(2)(B)" after "milk".*

(2) *Section 20(c) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769b(c)) is amended by striking "patterns and fluid milk requirements" and inserting "patterns, fluid milk requirements, and nutritional standards for nondairy beverages".*

SEC. 3. INCLUDING FOOD ALLERGY INFORMATION IN EXISTING TRAINING MODULES FOR LOCAL FOOD SERVICE PERSONNEL.

(a) *FOOD ALLERGY TRAINING MODULE.*—Section 7(g)(2)(B)(iii) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1776(g)(2)(B)(iii)) is amended—

(1) *by redesignating subclauses (II) and (III) as subclauses (III) and (IV), respectively; and*

(2) *by inserting after subclause (I) the following:*

"(II) food allergies, including information on the best practices to prevent, recognize, and respond to food-related allergic reactions;"

(b) *CERTIFICATION.*—Section 7(g)(2)(B)(ii)(II) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1776(g)(2)(B)(ii)(II)) is amended by striking "clause (i)" and inserting "clauses (i) and (iii)".

Mr. MARSHALL. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment, in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to.

The bill (S. 222), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, I am here to speak about the urgent need for the Trump administration to release \$4 billion in LIHEAP funding. LIHEAP, as you know, is the low-income plan. It is absolutely critical that that money be distributed to the States so the States can distribute it to the citizens who need it. We are in the cold weather season and getting money out after the cold weather season does not help keep people warm.

LIHEAP funding enjoys broad support, and that is because, in the Presiding Officer's State and in mine, folks in the winter who are on the margins financially, literally, can't get by unless they have access to this funding.

So here we are, the heating season is upon us, and the LIHEAP funding is stuck and not being distributed.

This is an absolute responsibility of the Trump administration, and there is no—no—excuse for withholding the funding. It just means that people who are cold are going to be cold and terrified, and they have no confidence about their ability to stay warm.

It is getting cold in Vermont. You know, most families who use LIHEAP funding, they make about 150 percent of the poverty level, that is about \$23,000 a year. You know, the cost of home heating fuel is between 3 and 4 bucks a gallon, right now. That help is essential.

In Vermont, around 26,000 people rely on LIHEAP to afford heat. And by the way, for folks in the warm weather