

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6203

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 and the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 to make commodities available for the Emergency Food Assistance Program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 2, 2023

Ms. SALINAS (for herself, Mr. PANETTA, and Ms. CROCKETT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 and the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 to make commodities available for the Emergency Food Assistance Program, 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 “Farmers Feeding
5 America Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. AVAILABILITY OF COMMODITIES FOR THE EMER-**
2 **GENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

3 Section 27(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008
4 (7 U.S.C. 2036(a)) is amended—

5 (1) by striking “2023” each place it appears
6 (except in paragraph (2)(D)(ix)) and inserting
7 “2028”; and

8 (2) in paragraph (2)—

9 (A) in subparagraph (D)—

10 (i) in clause (viii), by striking “and”
11 at the end; and

12 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-
13 lowing:

14 “(x) for each of fiscal years 2024
15 through 2028, \$500,000,000; and”; and

16 (B) in subparagraph (E)—

17 (i) by striking “2024” and inserting
18 “2029”; and

19 (ii) by striking “specified in subpara-
20 graph (D)(ix)” and inserting “described in
21 subparagraph (D)(x)”.

22 **SEC. 3. EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAM STORAGE AND DIS-**
23 **TRIBUTION.**

24 Section 204(a)(1) of the Emergency Food Assistance
25 Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 7508(a)(1)) is amended, in the first

1 sentence, by striking “\$100,000,000” and inserting
2 “\$200,000,000”.

3 **SEC. 4. EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAM INFRASTRUCTURE**
4 **GRANTS.**

5 Section 209(d) of the Emergency Food Assistance
6 Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 7511a(d)) is amended by striking
7 “2023” and inserting “2028”.

8 **SEC. 5. GEOGRAPHICALLY ISOLATED STATES.**

9 Section 214 of the Emergency Food Assistance Act
10 of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 7515) is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (c), by adding at the end the
12 following:

13 “(3) ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY OPTIONS FOR
14 GEOGRAPHICALLY ISOLATED STATES.—

15 “(A) DEFINITION OF GEOGRAPHICALLY
16 ISOLATED STATE.—In this paragraph, the term
17 ‘geographically isolated State’ means—

18 “(i) the State of Hawaii;

19 “(ii) the State of Alaska;

20 “(iii) the Commonwealth of Puerto
21 Rico;

22 “(iv) the Commonwealth of the North-
23 ern Mariana Islands;

24 “(v) the Virgin Islands of the United
25 States; and

1 “(vi) Guam.

2 “(B) ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY OPTIONS.—

3 At the request of a geographically isolated
4 State, the Secretary shall coordinate with the
5 geographically isolated State—

6 “(i) to establish alternative delivery
7 options for commodities allocated to that
8 geographically isolated State under this
9 section to ensure that the geographically
10 isolated State is able to receive those com-
11 modities; and

12 “(ii) to allow for the geographically
13 isolated State to order commodities
14 through the Department of Defense Fresh
15 Fruit and Vegetable Program.

16 “(C) DIRECT PURCHASE OPTION.—The
17 Secretary may transfer to a geographically iso-
18 lated State the cash value of not more than 20
19 percent of the commodities allocated to that
20 geographically isolated State under this section
21 to be used by the geographically isolated State
22 to procure domestically grown food in lieu of re-
23 ceipt of those commodities.”; and

24 (2) by adding at the end the following:

25 “(e) FRESH PRODUCE PACKAGES.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In purchasing fresh
2 produce packages to provide under the program es-
3 tablished under this Act, the Secretary may consider
4 additional factors beyond lowest price in determining
5 winning bids for contracts for those fresh produce
6 packages, including product variety and transpor-
7 tation distance.

8 “(2) NUTRITION.—The Secretary shall carry
9 out paragraph (1) in a manner that maintains the
10 goal of maximizing the amount of nutritious food
11 available through the program described in that
12 paragraph.”.

○