

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to improve the efficiency of summer meals.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

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**A BILL**

To amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to improve the efficiency of summer meals.

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 “Summer Meals Act  
5 of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN.**

7 (a) BETTER INTEGRATE SUMMER EDUCATION AND  
8 SUMMER MEALS PROGRAM.—Section 13(a)(1)(A)(i) of  
9 the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42  
10 U.S.C. 1761(a)(1)(A)(i)) (relating to the definition of the

1 term “area in which poor economic conditions exist”) is  
2 amended by striking “50 percent” each place it appears  
3 and inserting “40 percent”.

4 (b) REDUCE RED TAPE FOR PUBLIC-PRIVATE PART-  
5 NERSHIPS.—Section 13(a)(8) of the Richard B. Russell  
6 National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1761(a)(8)) is  
7 amended—

8 (1) by striking the paragraph designation and  
9 heading and all that follows through “Except” and  
10 inserting the following:

11 “(8) YEAR-ROUND MEAL SERVICE.—

12 “(A) SEAMLESS SUMMER OPTION FOR  
13 SCHOOLS.—Except”; and

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

15 “(B) YEAR-ROUND MEAL SERVICE FOR  
16 OTHER SERVICE INSTITUTIONS.—Each service  
17 institution (other than a service institution de-  
18 scribed in subparagraph (A)), in addition to  
19 being eligible for reimbursement for meals de-  
20 scribed in subsection (b)(2) served during each  
21 day of operation during the periods described in  
22 subsection (c)(1), may be reimbursed for up to  
23 1 meal and 1 snack per child served during  
24 each day of operation during—

25 “(i) afterschool hours;

1 “(ii) weekends; and

2 “(iii) school holidays during the reg-  
3 ular school calendar.”.

4 (c) IMPROVE NUTRITION IN UNDERSERVED, HARD-  
5 TO-REACH AREAS.—Section 13(a) of the Richard B. Rus-  
6 sell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1761(a)) is  
7 amended—

8 (1) by striking paragraphs (9) and (10) and in-  
9 serting the following:

10 “(9) IMPROVE NUTRITION IN UNDERSERVED,  
11 HARD-TO-REACH AREAS.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the avail-  
13 ability of appropriations provided in advance in  
14 an appropriations Act specifically for the pur-  
15 pose of carrying out this paragraph, the Sec-  
16 retary shall award competitive grants to service  
17 institutions selected by the Secretary to in-  
18 crease participation in the program by children  
19 who lack the ability to access a congregate feed-  
20 ing site through—

21 “(i) innovative approaches to limited  
22 transportation;

23 “(ii) mobile meal trucks; and

1                   “(iii) any other method or approach  
2                   that does not require children to access a  
3                   congregate feeding site.

4                   “(B) ELIGIBILITY.—To be selected to re-  
5                   ceive a grant under this paragraph, a service in-  
6                   stitution—

7                   “(i) may be located in any State; and

8                   “(ii) shall—

9                   “(I) submit to the Secretary an  
10                  application at such time, in such man-  
11                  ner, and containing such information  
12                  as the Secretary may require;

13                  “(II) meet criteria established by  
14                  the Secretary; and

15                  “(III) agree to the terms and  
16                  conditions of the grant, as established  
17                  by the Secretary.

18                  “(C) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants  
19                  under this paragraph, the Secretary shall give  
20                  priority to service institutions that plan—

21                  “(i) to serve both breakfast and lunch;

22                  or

23                  “(ii) to serve lunch, a snack, and din-  
24                  ner.

1                   “(D) TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT.—A serv-  
2                   ice institution that receives a grant under sub-  
3                   paragraph (A)(i) may use grant funds to pro-  
4                   vide reimbursement for travel.

5                   “(E) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-  
6                   TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated  
7                   to the Secretary to make competitive grants  
8                   under this paragraph \$10,000,000 for each fis-  
9                   cal year.”; and

10                   (2) by redesignating paragraphs (11) and (12)  
11                   as paragraphs (10) and (11), respectively.

12                   (d) THIRD MEAL.—Section 13(b)(2) of the Richard  
13 B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C.  
14 1761(b)(2)) is amended by striking “only serve lunch”  
15 and all that follows through “migrant children may”.

16                   (e) SUMMER MEAL SERVICE REIMBURSEMENT  
17 AFTER EMERGENCIES AND DISASTERS.—Section 13 of  
18 the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42  
19 U.S.C. 1761) is amended by striking subsection (r) and  
20 inserting the following:

21                   “(r) SUMMER MEAL SERVICE REIMBURSEMENT  
22 AFTER EMERGENCIES AND DISASTERS.—

23                   “(1) DEFINITION OF AFFECTED AREA.—In this  
24                   subsection, the term ‘affected area’ means an area  
25                   for which—

1           “(A) the President has declared a major  
2           disaster in accordance with section 401 of the  
3           Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emer-  
4           gency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170); or

5           “(B) the Governor of the State in which  
6           the area is located has declared an emergency  
7           or disaster under State law.

8           “(2) SUMMER MEAL REIMBURSEMENT.—In an  
9           affected area, the Secretary shall, on request by a  
10          State, reimburse a service institution for meals pro-  
11          vided under this section to children that consume  
12          the meals by a noncongregate method or approach.”.

13          (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section  
14          13 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act  
15          (42 U.S.C. 1761) is amended by adding at the end the  
16          following:

17          “(s) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
18          are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are nec-  
19          essary to carry out this section for the period of fiscal  
20          years 2019 through 2024.”.