

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to streamline nutrition access for older adults and adults with disabilities, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. GILLIBRAND introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to streamline nutrition access for older adults and adults with disabilities, 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 “Senior Hunger Preven-
5 tion Act of 2026”.

6 **SEC. 2. IMPROVING EFFICACY OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL NU-**
7 **TRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

8 (a) CERTIFICATION PERIOD.—Section 3(f) of the
9 Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012(f)) is

1 amended, in the second sentence, by striking “24” and
2 inserting “36”.

3 (b) STANDARD MEDICAL EXPENSE DEDUCTION.—
4 Section 5(e)(5) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008
5 (7 U.S.C. 2014(e)(5)) is amended—

6 (1) in the paragraph heading, by striking “EX-
7 CESS MEDICAL” and inserting “MEDICAL”;

8 (2) in subparagraph (A), by striking “an excess
9 medical” and all that follows through the period at
10 the end and inserting “a standard medical deduction
11 or a medical expense deduction of actual costs for
12 the allowable medical expenses incurred by the elder-
13 ly or disabled member, exclusive of special diets.”;

14 (3) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking “ex-
15 cess”; and

16 (4) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(D) STANDARD MEDICAL EXPENSE DE-
18 DUCTION AMOUNT.—

19 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-
20 vided in clause (ii), the standard medical
21 expense deduction shall be equal to—

22 “(I) for fiscal year 2027, \$155;

23 and

24 “(II) for each subsequent fiscal
25 year, the applicable amount for the

1 immediately preceding fiscal year, as
2 adjusted to reflect changes for the 12-
3 month period ending the preceding
4 June 30 in the Consumer Price Index
5 for All Urban Consumers: Medical
6 Care published by the Bureau of
7 Labor Statistics of the Department of
8 Labor.

9 “(ii) EXCEPTION.—For any fiscal
10 year, a State agency may establish a great-
11 er standard medical expense deduction
12 than the deduction described in clause (i)
13 if the greater deduction satisfies the appli-
14 cable cost-neutrality standards established
15 by the Secretary for that fiscal year.”.

16 (c) VALUE OF ALLOTMENT.—Section 8(a) of the
17 Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2017(a)) is
18 amended, in the proviso, by striking “8 percent” and in-
19 serting “ $\frac{1}{3}$ ”.

20 **SEC. 3. STREAMLINING NUTRITION ACCESS FOR OLDER**
21 **ADULTS AND ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES.**

22 (a) DEFINITION OF ELDERLY AND DISABLED.—Sec-
23 tion 3(j)(2)(B) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008
24 (7 U.S.C. 2012(j)(2)(B)) is amended by inserting “(which
25 includes medical assistance provided to an individual de-

1 scribed in section 1902(e)(14)(D)(i)(III) of the Social Se-
2 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(e)(14)(D)(i)(III)))” after
3 “(42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.)”.

4 (b) ELDERLY SIMPLIFIED APPLICATION PRO-
5 GRAM.—The Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C.
6 2011 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
7 lowing:

8 **“SEC. 31. ELDERLY SIMPLIFIED APPLICATION PROGRAM.**

9 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after
10 the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall
11 establish a program, to be known as the ‘elderly simplified
12 application program’ (referred to in this section as
13 ‘ESAP’), under which a State, in carrying out the supple-
14 mental nutrition assistance program, may elect to imple-
15 ment a streamlined application and certification process
16 for households in which all adult members—

17 “(1) are elderly or disabled members; and

18 “(2) have no earned income.

19 “(b) CERTIFICATION PERIOD.—The certification pe-
20 riod for participants in ESAP shall be 36 months.

21 “(c) INCOME AND OTHER DATA VERIFICATION.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A State agency deter-
23 mining the eligibility for an applicant household
24 under ESAP shall, notwithstanding section
25 11(e)(3)—

1 “(A) to the maximum extent practicable,
2 use data matching for income verification and
3 household size; and

4 “(B)(i) allow self-declaration by the appli-
5 cant of the information required under section
6 273.2(f) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations
7 (or a successor regulation); but

8 “(ii) verify, prior to certification of the
9 household, factors of eligibility provided by the
10 applicant that the State agency determines are
11 questionable.

12 “(2) ACCOUNTABILITY AND FRAUD PREVEN-
13 TION.—In carrying out paragraph (1), a State agen-
14 cy shall establish accountability and fraud protection
15 measures to deter fraud and ensure the integrity of
16 ESAP and the supplemental nutrition assistance
17 program.

18 “(d) INTERVIEWS.—Notwithstanding section
19 11(e)(6)(A), for recertification of a household under
20 ESAP, a State agency shall not require an interview un-
21 less requested by the household, which may be conducted
22 virtually.

23 “(e) GUIDANCE.—Prior to the establishment of
24 ESAP under subsection (a), the Administrator of the
25 Food and Nutrition Service shall develop guidance for

1 States, including by consulting with States, to carry out
2 ESAP, which shall include—

3 “(1) general implementation guidelines;

4 “(2) reporting requirements;

5 “(3) quality control requirements; and

6 “(4) best practices.”.

7 (c) **COMBINED APPLICATION PROGRAM.**—The Food
8 and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) (as
9 amended by subsection (b)) is amended by adding at the
10 end the following:

11 **“SEC. 32. COMBINED APPLICATION PROGRAM.**

12 “(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after
13 the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary, in
14 coordination with the Commissioner of Social Security,
15 shall establish a program, to be known as the ‘combined
16 application program’ (referred to in this section as ‘CAP’),
17 under which a State, in carrying out the supplemental nu-
18 trition assistance program, may elect to implement a
19 streamlined application process for households in which all
20 adult members are applicants for or recipients of benefits
21 under title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401
22 et seq.) on the basis of a disability or supplemental secu-
23 rity income under title XVI of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1381
24 et seq.).

25 “(b) **PURPOSES.**—The purposes of CAP are—

1 “(1) to reduce the need for households de-
2 scribed in subsection (a) to have in-person interviews
3 with State offices administering the supplemental
4 nutrition assistance program; and

5 “(2) to increase participation in the supple-
6 mental nutrition assistance program by simplifying
7 the application process for that program through in-
8 creased automation and simplified calculation of
9 benefits.

10 “(c) CAP MODELS.—The Secretary, in coordination
11 with the Commissioner of the Social Security Administra-
12 tion, shall offer, at a minimum, each of the following mod-
13 els for States to implement CAP:

14 “(1) STANDARD MODEL.—

15 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Under the standard
16 model, the Commissioner of the Social Security
17 Administration and the State agency admin-
18 istering the supplemental nutrition assistance
19 program shall coordinate—

20 “(i) to develop a simplified joint appli-
21 cation process for the supplemental nutri-
22 tion assistance program that uses stand-
23 ardized benefit amounts or standardized
24 shelter expenses, in accordance with this
25 paragraph; and

1 “(ii) to conduct outreach to adult
2 members receiving supplemental security
3 income under title XVI of the Social Secu-
4 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.) that are
5 not receiving benefits under the supple-
6 mental nutrition assistance program.

7 “(B) STANDARDIZED BENEFIT
8 AMOUNTS.—

9 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Under the stand-
10 ardized model described in subparagraph
11 (A), applicants shall receive a standardized
12 or automated benefit level under the sup-
13 plemental nutrition assistance program
14 based on the shelter expenses and other in-
15 come of the applicants.

16 “(ii) MINIMUM STANDARDIZED BEN-
17 EFIT LEVELS.—At a minimum, there shall
18 be 2 standardized benefit levels under
19 clause (i), including, as determined by the
20 State—

21 “(I) a level for participants with
22 low shelter expenses; and

23 “(II) a level for participants with
24 high shelter expenses.

1 “(iii) COMPARABLE AMOUNT.—A
2 State shall ensure that the amount pro-
3 vided under a standardized benefit level
4 under clause (i) is comparable to an
5 amount that a participant would otherwise
6 receive under the supplemental nutrition
7 assistance program.

8 “(iv) REFERRAL.—A State shall refer
9 a household described in subsection (a) to
10 the supplemental nutrition assistance pro-
11 gram instead of enrolling that household in
12 CAP if the standardized amount that the
13 household would receive under CAP would
14 be significantly less than the amount of
15 benefits that the household would receive
16 under the supplemental nutrition assist-
17 ance program.

18 “(C) STANDARDIZED SHELTER EX-
19 PENSES.—In computing an excess shelter ex-
20 pense deduction under section 5(e)(6), a State
21 agency may use a standard utility allowance in
22 accordance with regulations promulgated by the
23 Secretary.

1 “(2) MODIFIED MODEL.—Under the modified
2 model, a State agency administering the supple-
3 mental nutrition assistance program shall—

4 “(A) conduct outreach to prospective par-
5 ticipants in the supplemental nutrition assist-
6 ance program using information from the Social
7 Security Administration to identify households
8 described in subsection (a) that are not partici-
9 pants in the supplemental nutrition assistance
10 program; and

11 “(B) send to those households simplified
12 application forms for the supplemental nutrition
13 assistance program.”.

14 **SEC. 4. ENROLLMENT AND OUTREACH PILOT PROGRAM**
15 **FOR OLDER ADULTS, KINSHIP FAMILIES, AND**
16 **ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES.**

17 The Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011
18 et seq.) (as amended by section 3(e)) is amended by add-
19 ing at the end the following:

20 **“SEC. 33. ENROLLMENT AND OUTREACH PILOT PROGRAM**
21 **FOR OLDER ADULTS, KINSHIP FAMILIES, AND**
22 **ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES.**

23 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

24 “(1) DISABILITY.—The term ‘disability’ has the
25 meaning given the term in section 3 of the Ameri-

1 cans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
2 12102).

3 “(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-
4 tity’ means—

5 “(A) a State or local government agency;

6 “(B) an Indian tribe or Tribal organiza-
7 tion;

8 “(C) a nonprofit organization, including a
9 public or nonprofit provider of services;

10 “(D) a community-based organization; and

11 “(E) an educational provider.

12 “(3) KINSHIP FAMILY.—The term ‘kinship fam-
13 ily’ means a family in which a child resides with,
14 and is being raised by, a grandparent, another ex-
15 tended family member, or an adult with whom the
16 child has a close family-like relationship, such as a
17 godparent or a close family friend.

18 “(4) OLDER ADULT.—The term ‘older adult’
19 has the meaning given the term ‘older individual’ in
20 section 102 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42
21 U.S.C. 3002).

22 “(5) PILOT PROGRAM.—The term ‘pilot pro-
23 gram’ means the Enrollment and Outreach Pilot
24 Program for Older Adults, Kinship Families, and

1 Adults with Disabilities established under subsection
2 (b).

3 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days
4 after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary
5 shall establish a pilot program, to be known as the ‘Enroll-
6 ment and Outreach Pilot Program for Older Adults, Kin-
7 ship Families, and Adults with Disabilities’, under which
8 the Secretary shall award grants to eligible entities—

9 “(1) to raise awareness among older adults,
10 kinship families, and adults with disabilities of the
11 availability, eligibility requirements, application pro-
12 cedures, and benefits of the supplemental nutrition
13 assistance program; and

14 “(2) to support older adults, kinship families,
15 and adults with disabilities in enrolling in the sup-
16 plemental nutrition assistance program.

17 “(c) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under the pilot
18 program, the Secretary shall give priority to—

19 “(1) eligible entities that—

20 “(A) provide services to older adults or
21 adults with disabilities;

22 “(B) provide services to kinship families,
23 including kinship navigator programs;

24 “(C) have experience implementing pro-
25 grams that receive funding under the Older

1 Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et
2 seq.);

3 “(D) have experience implementing pro-
4 grams administered by the Food and Nutrition
5 Service; or

6 “(E) receive, plan to receive, or dem-
7 onstrate an ability to partner with a program
8 that receives, funding under—

9 “(i) the Older Americans Act of 1965
10 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.);

11 “(ii) the Americans with Disabilities
12 Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.); or

13 “(iii) 1 or more nutrition programs
14 administered by the Secretary; and

15 “(2) projects that will—

16 “(A) serve communities with high rates of
17 food insecurity, malnutrition, or low food ac-
18 cess;

19 “(B) serve rural communities, indigenous
20 communities, or communities of color;

21 “(C) serve members of the lesbian, gay, bi-
22 sexual, transgender, and queer community;

23 “(D) serve adults with limited English pro-
24 ficiency;

25 “(E) serve veterans;

1 “(F) serve residents in federally subsidized
2 housing, including federally subsidized housing
3 units for older adults and adults with disabili-
4 ties;

5 “(G) serve residents living in housing serv-
6 ing kinship families; and

7 “(H) incorporate nutrition education ac-
8 tivities that promote healthy eating and active
9 lifestyles.

10 “(d) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—An eligible entity re-
11 ceiving a grant under the pilot program shall use the grant
12 to carry out 1 or more of the following activities:

13 “(1) Application assistance, including—

14 “(A) eligibility prescreening;

15 “(B) assistance in completing an applica-
16 tion for the supplemental nutrition assistance
17 program;

18 “(C) assistance in obtaining application
19 verification documents;

20 “(D) medical expense deduction coun-
21 seling; and

22 “(E) translation of materials and bilingual
23 accommodation.

1 “(2) Tailored dissemination of information re-
2 relating to the supplemental nutrition assistance pro-
3 gram, including through—

4 “(A) community-based outreach workshops
5 and events;

6 “(B) a toll-free hotline to provide informa-
7 tion about Federal, State, and local food re-
8 sources;

9 “(C) informational websites and other so-
10 cial media sites; and

11 “(D) printed or digital informational con-
12 tent.

13 “(3) Transportation, including—

14 “(A) transportation to or from a local of-
15 fice of the supplemental nutrition assistance
16 program; and

17 “(B) administration of vouchers or similar
18 items for the transportation described in sub-
19 paragraph (A).

20 “(4) Identification, implementation, analysis,
21 and dissemination of replicable and scalable models
22 for increasing enrollment in the supplemental nutri-
23 tion assistance program among older adults, kinship
24 families, and adults with disabilities.

25 “(e) GRANTS.—

1 “(1) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—A grant awarded
2 under the pilot program to an eligible entity for a
3 fiscal year shall be not less than \$50,000, but not
4 more than \$250,000.

5 “(2) DURATION.—An eligible entity may be
6 awarded a grant under the pilot program for not
7 more than 5 years.

8 “(f) EVALUATION.—Not later than 2 years after the
9 date of establishment of the pilot program, the Secretary
10 shall conduct an evaluation of the pilot program.

11 “(g) FUNDING.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to amounts
13 otherwise available, there is appropriated, out of any
14 funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated,
15 \$12,250,000, to remain available until expended, to
16 carry out the pilot program, of which not more than
17 \$250,000 shall be used to carry out the evaluation
18 under subsection (f).

19 “(2) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Of the amounts
20 made available under paragraph (1) (excluding the
21 amount made available to carry out subsection (f)),
22 not more than 3 percent may be used by the Sec-
23 retary for administrative costs.”.

1 **SEC. 5. FOOD DELIVERY UNDER SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRI-**
2 **TION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

3 The Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011
4 et seq.) (as amended by section 4) is amended by adding
5 at the end the following:

6 **“SEC. 34. FOOD DELIVERY.**

7 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8 “(1) COVERED RETAIL FOOD STORE.—The
9 term ‘covered retail food store’ means a retail food
10 store, a public or private nonprofit meal delivery
11 service, or a public or nonprofit meal delivery pro-
12 vider participating in the supplemental nutrition as-
13 sistance program that is unable to cover the cost of
14 food delivery for participants of that program.

15 “(2) EMPLOYEE.—The term ‘employee’ has the
16 meaning given the term in section 3 of the Fair
17 Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 203).

18 “(b) PROGRAM MODIFICATIONS.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the supple-
20 mental nutrition assistance program, the Secretary
21 shall—

22 “(A) notify retail food stores participating
23 in the supplemental nutrition assistance pro-
24 gram of existing opportunities through which
25 the retail food stores can deliver food to pro-
26 gram participants, including by—

1 “(i) allowing an EBT card to be
2 swiped on delivery of food to the home
3 (with a mobile device); and

4 “(ii) preparing food for pick-up;

5 “(B) authorize public-private partnerships
6 between the Department of Agriculture, retail
7 food stores participating in the supplemental
8 nutrition assistance program, and community-
9 based organizations to provide free or low-cost
10 food delivery, including through the use of pri-
11 vate funds;

12 “(C) in the case of a covered retail food
13 store, use funds made available under subpara-
14 graph (E) of paragraph (3) to provide, in ac-
15 cordance with that paragraph, free grocery de-
16 livery for program participants who are older
17 adults or adults with disabilities (as those terms
18 are defined in section 33(a)) who are unable to
19 shop for food or lack safe and accessible trans-
20 portation options to the covered retail food
21 store; and

22 “(D) require each State to submit to the
23 Secretary a State plan that describes how the
24 State will—

1 “(i) work with retail food stores par-
2 ticipating in the supplemental nutrition as-
3 sistance program and other community-
4 based partners to establish a process for
5 food delivery for program participants;

6 “(ii) administer the reimbursements
7 described in paragraph (3), including tim-
8 ing, eligibility, and distribution processes;
9 and

10 “(iii) ensure that retail food stores
11 participating in the supplemental nutrition
12 assistance program that are reimbursed for
13 delivery costs under paragraph (3) adhere
14 to the requirements described in subpara-
15 graph (B) of that paragraph.

16 “(2) STATE PLANS.—Not later than 10 days
17 after the date on which the Secretary receives a
18 State plan under paragraph (1)(D), the Secretary
19 shall—

20 “(A) approve or deny the State plan; and

21 “(B) make publicly available on the
22 website of the Department of Agriculture—

23 “(i) the State plan;

1 “(ii) the determination made under
2 subparagraph (A) with respect to that
3 plan; and

4 “(iii) any guidance issued to the State
5 with respect to that plan.

6 “(3) REIMBURSEMENT OF COVERED RETAIL
7 FOOD STORES.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any
9 other provision of law (including sections
10 274.7(f) and 278.2(b) of title 7, Code of Fed-
11 eral Regulations (or successor regulations), and
12 any other regulations), subject to the avail-
13 ability of funds, a State agency shall reimburse
14 a covered retail food store for the cost of food
15 delivery to participants described in paragraph
16 (1)(C) if—

17 “(i) the covered retail food store
18 meets the requirements under subpara-
19 graph (B); and

20 “(ii) the majority of the number of
21 food items delivered by the covered retail
22 food store are eligible for redemption using
23 benefits under the supplemental nutrition
24 assistance program, regardless of whether
25 the delivery includes nonfood items, subject

1 to the condition that those nonfood items
2 are of de minimis value.

3 “(B) REQUIREMENTS.—A covered retail
4 food store may receive reimbursement for the
5 cost of food delivery to participants described in
6 paragraph (1)(C) if the following requirements
7 are met:

8 “(i) Food delivery is performed by
9 employees of the covered retail food store
10 or employees of an entity contracted by the
11 covered retail food store to perform deliv-
12 eries.

13 “(ii) Before any employee described in
14 clause (i) begins making food deliveries,
15 that employee receives employer-provided
16 health and safety training that reflects the
17 most recent guidelines of the Centers for
18 Disease Control and Prevention.

19 “(iii) All employees described in
20 clause (i) performing deliveries are paid at
21 a rate that is not less than the greater
22 of—

23 “(I) the minimum wage rate es-
24 tablished under section 6(a)(1) of the

1 Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938
2 (29 U.S.C. 206(a)(1)); and

3 “(II) the minimum wage rate es-
4 tablished by the applicable State or lo-
5 cality in which the employee works.

6 “(iv) The covered retail food store
7 meets the size standard determined by the
8 Small Business Administration for a super-
9 market or other grocery retailer or a con-
10 venience retailer under section 121.201 of
11 title 13, Code of Federal Regulations (or a
12 successor regulation);

13 “(v) The covered retail food store does
14 not—

15 “(I) charge the supplemental nu-
16 trition assistance program participant
17 for delivery costs for which the cov-
18 ered retail food store will be reim-
19 bursed;

20 “(II) require minimum purchase
21 thresholds in order to provide free de-
22 livery;

23 “(III) restrict delivery times to
24 least-favorable windows for supple-

1 mental nutrition assistance program
2 participants; or

3 “(IV) charge surge pricing.

4 “(C) REIMBURSABLE COSTS.—Reimburs-
5 able costs under subparagraph (A) include costs
6 associated with purchasing point-of-sale devices
7 or receiving technical assistance relating to
8 point-of-sale devices.

9 “(D) MAXIMUM REIMBURSEMENT PER DE-
10 LIVERY.—The maximum amount of reimburse-
11 ment under subparagraph (A) for a food deliv-
12 ery fee shall be \$10 per delivery, which may be
13 adjusted by the Secretary for inflation.

14 “(E) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
15 TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated
16 to the Secretary \$500,000,000 for fiscal year
17 2027, and each fiscal year thereafter, to remain
18 available until expended, to cover the cost of
19 food delivery described in paragraph (1)(C), to
20 be distributed among States to fund reimburse-
21 ments by States under subparagraph (A).

22 “(4) REPORT.—Not later than April 30, 2028,
23 and April 30 of each year thereafter, the Secretary
24 shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutri-
25 tion, and Forestry and the Special Committee on

1 Aging of the Senate, and the Committee on Agri-
2 culture of the House of Representatives, a report
3 that describes, for the period covered by the report,
4 as applicable—

5 “(A) the number of supplemental nutrition
6 assistance program participants using food de-
7 livery services, including the percentage of those
8 participants that are older adults and adults
9 with disabilities (as those terms are defined in
10 section 33(a));

11 “(B) the covered retail food stores that
12 were reimbursed under paragraph (3), including
13 the amount of each reimbursement;

14 “(C) any complications or difficulties expe-
15 rienced by States in administering reimburse-
16 ments under paragraph (3); and

17 “(D) recommendations or best practices to
18 assist States in implementing food delivery pro-
19 grams.”.

20 **SEC. 6. COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM.**

21 (a) FUNDS.—Section 4 of the Agriculture and Con-
22 sumer Protection Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 612c note; Public
23 Law 93–86) is amended—

24 (1) in subsection (a), in the first sentence, by
25 striking “2023” and inserting “2031”; and

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

2 “(d) FUNDS.—In addition to amounts otherwise
3 available, there is appropriated, out of any funds in the
4 Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to carry out the pro-
5 gram under this section \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal
6 years 2027 through 2031.”.

7 (b) ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES.—Section 5 of the
8 Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (7
9 U.S.C. 612c note; Public Law 93–86) is amended—

10 (1) by striking “2023” each place it appears
11 and inserting “2031”;

12 (2) in subsection (g)—

13 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “to low-
14 income persons aged 60 and older.” and insert-
15 ing the following: “to—

16 “(A) low-income persons aged 60 and
17 older; and

18 “(B) low-income adults with disabilities (as
19 defined in section 3 of the Americans with Dis-
20 abilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12102)).”;

21 (B) by redesignating paragraph (2) as
22 paragraph (3);

23 (C) by inserting after paragraph (1) the
24 following:

1 “(2) INCOME ELIGIBILITY.—For purposes of
2 paragraph (1), a low-income individual described in
3 subparagraph (A) or (B) of that paragraph shall
4 have a gross income level that is less than 185 per-
5 cent of the Federal poverty line.”; and

6 (D) in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3)
7 (as so redesignated), in the matter preceding
8 clause (i), by striking “of—” and all that fol-
9 lows through the period at the end of clause (ii)
10 and inserting “of 36 months.”; and

11 (3) in subsection (i), in the matter preceding
12 paragraph (1)—

13 (A) by inserting “or low-income adults
14 with disabilities described in subsection
15 (g)(1)(B)” after “elderly persons”; and

16 (B) by striking “to each elderly participant
17 in, or applicant for, the commodity supple-
18 mental food program for the elderly” and in-
19 serting “to each participant in, or applicant for,
20 such a program”.

21 **SEC. 7. SENIORS FARMERS’ MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4402 of the Farm Secu-
23 rity and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 3007)
24 is amended—

25 (1) in subsection (a)—

1 (A) by striking “Of the funds” and insert-
2 ing the following:

3 “(1) MANDATORY FUNDING.—Of the funds”;

4 (B) in paragraph (1) (as so designated), by
5 inserting “(referred to in this section as the
6 ‘Secretary’)” after “Agriculture”; and

7 (C) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

9 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
10 retary to carry out and expand the seniors farmers’
11 market nutrition program—

12 “(A) not less than \$60,000,000 for fiscal
13 year 2027;

14 “(B) not less than \$70,000,000 for fiscal
15 year 2028; and

16 “(C) not less than \$100,000,000 for each
17 of fiscal years 2029 through 2031.”;

18 (2) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting “and
19 adults with disabilities (as defined in section 3 of the
20 Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
21 12102))” before the semicolon at the end;

22 (3) by redesignating subsections (c) through (f)
23 as subsections (f) through (i), respectively; and

24 (4) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
25 lowing:

1 “(c) BENEFIT AMOUNTS.—Under the seniors farm-
2 ers’ market nutrition program—

3 “(1) the minimum individual benefit shall be
4 \$35; and

5 “(2) the maximum individual benefit shall be
6 \$80.

7 “(d) CERTIFICATION PERIOD.—The certification pe-
8 riod for participants in the seniors farmers’ market nutri-
9 tion program shall be 36 months.

10 “(e) MODERNIZATION GRANTS.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
12 after the date of enactment of the Senior Hunger
13 Prevention Act of 2026, the Secretary shall establish
14 a grant program under which the Secretary shall
15 award grants to State agencies, including Tribal or-
16 ganizations (as defined in section 3 of the Food and
17 Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012)) and terri-
18 tories, that administer the senior farmers’ market
19 nutrition program to modernize program operations,
20 including—

21 “(A) by transitioning from paper-based
22 coupons to an electronic transaction technology,
23 such as a web-based service or installable soft-
24 ware; and

1 “(B) by increasing benefit use at farmers’
2 markets.

3 “(2) GRANT AMOUNT.—

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The amount of a
5 grant awarded under paragraph (1) shall not
6 exceed \$350,000.

7 “(B) SUPPLIES.—Not more than \$25,000
8 may be used to carry out subparagraph (F) of
9 paragraph (3).

10 “(3) ELIGIBLE EXPENSES.—An entity receiving
11 a grant under paragraph (1) may use the grant
12 for—

13 “(A) costs associated with the procurement
14 of electronic transaction technology;

15 “(B) planning costs, including personnel
16 costs, relating to electronic transaction tech-
17 nology procurement and implementation;

18 “(C) costs associated with evaluating the
19 impact of transitioning from coupon-based oper-
20 ations to an electronic transaction technology;

21 “(D) training, outreach, and promotional
22 material costs, including the costs associated
23 with translating materials;

24 “(E) maintenance and operation of elec-
25 tronic transaction technology procured using

1 the grant during the period of performance of
2 the grant;

3 “(F) the purchase of supplies needed to
4 perform electronic transactions onsite; and

5 “(G) additional costs associated with mod-
6 ernizing program operations, as determined ap-
7 propriate by the Secretary.

8 “(4) REPORTS.—Each entity that receives a
9 grant under paragraph (1) shall submit to the Sec-
10 retary and the Administrator of the Food and Nutri-
11 tion Service quarterly performance progress reports
12 on the use of the grant.

13 “(5) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
14 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
15 retary to carry out this subsection \$15,000,000 for
16 fiscal year 2027 and each fiscal year thereafter.”.

17 (b) INCOME GUIDELINES.—The Secretary of Agri-
18 culture shall revise section 249.6(a)(3) of title 7, Code of
19 Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation), to ensure
20 that income eligibility under that section is at or below
21 200 percent of the poverty income guidelines.

1 “(5) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means
2 the Secretary of Agriculture.

3 “(b) INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING FOR FARMERS’
4 MARKETS.—

5 “(1) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In
6 this subsection, the term ‘eligible entity’ means an
7 entity that—

8 “(A) is—

9 “(i) an agricultural cooperative or
10 other agricultural business entity or a pro-
11 ducer network or association, including a
12 community-supported agriculture network
13 or association;

14 “(ii) a local or Tribal government;

15 “(iii) a nonprofit corporation;

16 “(iv) a public benefit corporation;

17 “(v) an economic development cor-
18 poration;

19 “(vi) a regional farmers’ market au-
20 thority;

21 “(vii) a food council; or

22 “(viii) any other entity as determined
23 by the Secretary; and

24 “(B) can demonstrate financial need, as
25 determined by the Secretary.

1 “(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180
2 days after the date of enactment of the Senior Hun-
3 ger Prevention Act of 2026, the Secretary shall es-
4 tablish a program under which the Secretary shall
5 provide financial assistance to eligible entities for—

6 “(A) the establishment of new farmers’
7 markets;

8 “(B) the improvement or rehabilitation of
9 existing farmers’ markets, including by adding
10 or improving payment technologies used in
11 those farmers’ markets; and

12 “(C) the expansion of community sup-
13 ported agriculture to serve older adults and
14 adults with disabilities.

15 “(3) REQUIREMENTS.—An eligible entity that
16 receives financial assistance under the program shall
17 be required—

18 “(A) to host farmers’ markets or related
19 activities at locations accessible—

20 “(i) by public transportation;

21 “(ii) by paratransit; or

22 “(iii) through transportation services
23 provided under the Older Americans Act of
24 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.); and

1 “(iii) a person engaged in the packing
2 of a food product; and

3 “(iv) a person engaged in the minimal
4 processing of a food product, as deter-
5 mined by the Secretary.

6 “(B) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligi-
7 ble entity’ means an entity that—

8 “(i)(I) coordinates enrollment in, and
9 distribution of, benefits under the seniors
10 farmers’ market nutrition program; or

11 “(II) demonstrates an ability to part-
12 ner with an entity that coordinates enroll-
13 ment in and distribution of benefits under
14 the seniors farmers’ market nutrition pro-
15 gram; and

16 “(ii) is—

17 “(I) a public or nonprofit pro-
18 vider of nutrition services or support
19 to older adults or adults with disabil-
20 ities, including—

21 “(aa) an Aging and Dis-
22 ability Resource Center (as de-
23 fined in section 102 of the Older
24 Americans Act of 1965 (42
25 U.S.C. 3002));

1 “(bb) an area agency on
2 aging (as defined in that section);

3 “(cc) a State health insur-
4 ance program;

5 “(dd) a State unit on aging;

6 “(ee) a center for inde-
7 pendent living;

8 “(ff) a community health
9 center;

10 “(gg) a multipurpose senior
11 center; and

12 “(hh) federally subsidized
13 housing, including federally sub-
14 sidized housing units for older
15 adults and adults with disabil-
16 ities; or

17 “(II) a local, State, or national
18 parks and recreation department.

19 “(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180
20 days after the date of enactment of the Senior Hun-
21 ger Prevention Act of 2026, the Secretary shall es-
22 tablish a pilot program under which the Secretary
23 shall award grants to eligible entities to contract
24 with agricultural producers that will grow produce to

1 support the local procurement and contracting of
2 produce for eligible entities.

3 “(3) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under
4 paragraph (2), the Secretary shall give priority to an
5 eligible entity that will use the grant funds to benefit
6 underserved communities, including communities
7 that are located in areas of concentrated poverty
8 with limited access to fresh locally or regionally
9 grown food.

10 “(4) METHODS.—Under a contract described in
11 paragraph (2), an agricultural producer may grow
12 produce through traditional or controlled environ-
13 mental agriculture farming.

14 “(5) EVALUATION.—Not later than 2 years
15 after the date of establishment of the pilot program
16 under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall conduct an
17 evaluation of the pilot program.

18 “(6) FUNDING.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Of the funds of the
20 Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary
21 shall use to carry out this subsection \$350,000
22 for each of fiscal years 2027 through 2031.

23 “(B) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Of the
24 amounts made available under subparagraph

1 (A) for a fiscal year, not more than 5 percent
2 may be used for administrative costs.

3 “(C) EVALUATION.—In addition to
4 amounts made available under subparagraph
5 (A), there is appropriated to the Secretary, out
6 of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise ap-
7 propriated, \$25,000 to carry out paragraph
8 (5).”.