

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1722

To amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to create  
a local food credit program.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 4, 2011

Ms. PINGREE of Maine (for herself, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. STARK,  
Mr. WELCH, and Mr. MCGOVERN) introduced the following bill; which  
was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## A BILL

To amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch  
Act to create a local food credit 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 “Eat Local Foods Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. LOCAL FOOD CREDIT PROGRAM.**

6 Section 6(c) of the Richard B. Russell National  
7 School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1755(c)) is amended by add-  
8 ing at the end the following:

9 “(3) LOCAL FOOD CREDIT PROGRAM.—

1           “(A) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—Be-  
2           ginning with the school year ending in 2013,  
3           the Secretary shall establish and carry out a  
4           program under which the Secretary, not later  
5           than the beginning of each school year, shall  
6           provide a grant to each participating State  
7           agency to provide to each participating school  
8           food authority under the jurisdiction of the  
9           State agency, local food credits in an amount  
10          equal to not more than 10 percent of the total  
11          value of the commodity assistance (or cash pay-  
12          ments in lieu thereof) that the authority would  
13          be eligible to receive under paragraph (2) for  
14          such school year, in lieu of such amount of  
15          commodity assistance (or cash payments in lieu  
16          thereof).

17          “(B) REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATING  
18          SCHOOL FOOD AUTHORITIES.—Each partici-  
19          pating school food authority shall—

20                 “(i) use the local food credit received  
21                 under this paragraph to purchase local  
22                 foods to be served under the school lunch  
23                 program in schools under the jurisdiction  
24                 of the authority;

1           “(ii) keep records of purchases made  
2           with such assistance; and

3           “(iii) provide such records to the Sec-  
4           retary in such manner and such form as  
5           established by the Secretary.

6           “(C) AUTHORIZED USE OF FUNDS.—A  
7           participating school food authority may use up  
8           to 10 percent of the local food credit received  
9           under this paragraph for a school year to pur-  
10          chase local foods to be served under the school  
11          lunch program during the following school year.

12          “(D) MINIMUM COMMODITY PURCHASES.—  
13          The amount of a grant made under this para-  
14          graph for a school year shall count towards the  
15          Secretary’s commodity assistance or commodity  
16          requirements under subsection (e) for such  
17          school year.

18          “(E) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this  
19          paragraph:

20                 “(i) LOCAL FOODS.—The term ‘local  
21                 foods’ means has the meaning given the  
22                 term ‘locally or regionally produced agri-  
23                 cultural food products’ in section  
24                 310B(g)(9)(A) of the Consolidated Farm

1 and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C.  
2 1932(g)(A)).

3 “(ii) LOCAL FOOD CREDIT.—The term  
4 ‘local food credits’ means cash, letters of  
5 credit, or another form of assistance, de-  
6 termined by the Secretary.

7 “(iii) PARTICIPATING SCHOOL FOOD  
8 AUTHORITY.—The term ‘participating  
9 school food authority’ means a school food  
10 authority that—

11 “(I) participates in the school  
12 lunch program under this Act; and

13 “(II) elects to participate in the  
14 local food credit program under this  
15 paragraph.

16 “(iv) PARTICIPATING STATE AGEN-  
17 CY.—The term ‘participating State agency’  
18 means a State agency that—

19 “(I) participating in the school  
20 lunch program under this Act; and

21 “(II) elects to participate in the  
22 local food credit program under this  
23 paragraph.”.

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