

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3815

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to make grants to carry out gleaning projects.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 21, 2017

Mr. LAWSON of Florida (for himself, Mr. DEUTCH, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to make grants to carry out gleaning projects.

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 “Food Sharing Act of
5 2017”.

6 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS.**

7 (a) ASSISTANCE FOR COMMUNITY FOOD
8 PROJECTS.—Section 25 of the Food and Nutrition Act of
9 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2034) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (b)(2)—

2 (A) in subparagraph (B) by striking “and”
3 at the end; and

4 (B) by striking subparagraph (C) and in-
5 serting the following:

6 “(C) \$9,000,000 for each of the fiscal
7 years 2015 through 2017; and

8 “(D) \$8,500,000 for fiscal year 2018 and
9 each fiscal year thereafter.”.

10 (b) ASSISTANCE FOR GLEANING PROJECTS.—The
11 Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.)
12 is amended by adding at the end the following:

13 **“SEC. 30. ASSISTANCE FOR GLEANING PROJECTS.**

14 **“(a) DEFINITIONS.—**In this section:

15 **“(1) GLEANING PROJECT.—**The term ‘gleaning
16 project’ means a project in which an entity—

17 **“(A)** collects edible, surplus food that
18 would be thrown away and distributes the food
19 to agencies or nonprofit organizations that feed
20 the hungry; or

21 **“(B)** harvests for free distribution to the
22 needy, or for donation to agencies or nonprofit
23 organizations for ultimate distribution to the
24 needy, an agricultural crop that has been do-
25 nated by the owner of the crop.

1 “(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-
2 tity’ means a public food program service provider,
3 a tribal organization, or a private nonprofit entity
4 that—

5 “(A) has experience in the area of—

6 “(i) providing food to individuals in
7 low-income communities; or

8 “(ii) engaging in efforts to reduce
9 food insecurity in low-income communities,
10 including food distribution, improving ac-
11 cess to services, or coordinating services
12 and programs;

13 “(B) demonstrates competency to imple-
14 ment a gleaning project, to provide fiscal ac-
15 countability, to collect data, and to prepare re-
16 ports and other necessary documentation relat-
17 ing to such project;

18 “(C) demonstrates a willingness to share
19 information relating to such project with re-
20 searchers, practitioners, and other persons; and

21 “(D) submits to the Secretary an applica-
22 tion that contains such terms and conditions as
23 the Secretary may require by rule, including an
24 agreement to provide the non-Federal cost of
25 such project.

1 “(b) AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE.—

2 “(1) FUNDS.—From amounts made available to
3 carry out this Act, the Secretary may make grants
4 to assist eligible entities to establish and carry out
5 gleaning projects.

6 “(2) LIMITATION ON GRANTS.—The aggregate
7 amount of funds provided as grants made under this
8 section may not exceed \$500,000 for fiscal year
9 2018 and each fiscal year thereafter.

10 “(c) PREFERENCE FOR CERTAIN GLEANING
11 PROJECTS.—In selecting gleaning projects to receive
12 grants under this section, the Secretary shall give pref-
13 erence to projects designed to develop new resources and
14 strategies to help reduce food insecurity and prevent food
15 insecurity in low-income communities that are the subject
16 of such projects by—

17 “(1) developing creative food resources; or

18 “(2) coordinating food services with park and
19 recreation programs, and other community-based ac-
20 tivities, to reduce barriers to access to food.

21 “(d) COST-SHARING REQUIREMENTS.—

22 “(1) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of
23 the cost of carrying out a gleaning project for which
24 a grant is made under this section shall be paid with
25 such grant by the Secretary in such amount as the

1 Secretary determines but may not exceed 50 percent
2 of the cost of such project.

3 “(2) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The recipient of a
4 grant under this section shall provide in cash or in
5 kind, fairly evaluated, including facilities, equipment,
6 or services, from non-Federal sources for the cost of
7 such project that is not paid under paragraph (1).

8 “(e) TERM OF GRANT.—

9 “(1) SINGLE GRANT.—Only 1 grant may be
10 made under this section for a particular gleaning
11 project.

12 “(2) TERM.—The period during which the
13 grant made under this section may be expended may
14 not exceed 5 years.

15 “(f) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND RELATED INFOR-
16 MATION.—

17 “(1) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—In carrying out
18 this section, the Secretary may provide assistance to
19 an eligible entity regarding gleaning projects, proc-
20 esses, and development.

21 “(2) SHARING INFORMATION.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may
23 share information concerning gleaning projects
24 and issues with the public through publications,
25 conferences, and other appropriate forums.

1 “(B) OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS.—The
2 Secretary may share information concerning
3 gleaning projects with researchers, practi-
4 tioners, and other interested persons.

5 “(g) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than Sep-
6 tember 30, 2018, and annually thereafter, the Secretary
7 shall submit to the Congress a report that describes with
8 respect to each grant made under this section information
9 that includes—

10 “(1) a description of each activity funded with
11 such grant; and

12 “(2) the degree of success in improving the
13 long-term capacity of the low-income community
14 served by the gleaning project involved to address
15 food and agriculture problems related to hunger or
16 access to healthy food in such community.”.

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