

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2578

To amend the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 to allow certain States to directly purchase commodities, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 27, 2023

Ms. HIRONO introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To amend the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 to allow certain States to directly purchase commodities, 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. DIRECT PURCHASE OF COMMODITIES.**

4 Section 202 of the Emergency Food Assistance Act
5 of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 7502) is amended by inserting after
6 subsection (a) the following:

7 “(b) DIRECT PURCHASE OF COMMODITIES.—

8 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

9 “(A) ELIGIBLE STATE.—The term ‘eligible
10 State’ has the meaning given the term in sec-

1 tion 4206(b) of the Agriculture Improvement
2 Act of 2018 (7 U.S.C. 7518(b)).

3 “(B) ENTITLEMENT FUNDS.—The term
4 ‘entitlement funds’, with respect to an eligible
5 State, means the dollar amount used by the
6 Secretary to purchase commodities pursuant to
7 section 27 of the Food and Nutrition Act of
8 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2036) to distribute to the eligi-
9 ble State in accordance with section 214.

10 “(2) DIRECT PURCHASE.—The Secretary shall
11 allow an eligible State to elect to receive all of the
12 entitlement funds of the eligible State as cash to
13 make direct purchases of commodities through the
14 private commercial marketplace.”.

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