

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 9164

To amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to require the Secretary of Agriculture to make grants to eligible entities to acquire and install milk storage-related equipment for use in elementary schools and secondary schools, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 4, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. COURTNEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to require the Secretary of Agriculture to make grants to eligible entities to acquire and install milk storage-related equipment for use in elementary schools and secondary schools, 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 “Funding Refrigeration
5 Equipment for Student Health Act of 2026” or the
6 “FRESH Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MILK STORAGE EQUIPMENT GRANT PROGRAM.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Richard B. Russell National
3 School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) is amended
4 by adding at the end the following:

5 **“SEC. 30. MILK STORAGE EQUIPMENT GRANT PROGRAM.**

6 “(a) PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—The Secretary shall
7 carry out a program to make grants, on a competitive
8 basis, to eligible entities to acquire and install cold storage
9 equipment for storing milk or milk dispensers for use in
10 elementary schools and secondary schools.

11 “(b) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant
12 under this section, an eligible entity shall submit an appli-
13 cation to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and
14 containing such information as the Secretary may require.

15 “(c) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of a
16 project carried out using a grant awarded under this sec-
17 tion shall not be greater than 75 percent.

18 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
19 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
20 \$4,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2027 through 2031.

21 “(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

22 “(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-
23 tity’ means—

24 “(A) a local educational agency or a school
25 food authority administering or operating a
26 school meal program;

1 “(B) a tribal organization; or

2 “(C) a consortium that includes a local
3 educational agency or school food authority de-
4 scribed in subparagraph (A), a tribal organiza-
5 tion, or both.

6 “(2) ESEA TERMS.—The terms ‘elementary
7 school’, ‘local educational agency’, and ‘secondary
8 school’ have the meaning given those terms in sec-
9 tion 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
10 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

11 “(3) MILK DISPENSER.—The term ‘milk dis-
12 penser’ means a machine that stores and chills milk
13 in bulk at a consistent temperature and allows a
14 user to dispense the milk directly into a cup or other
15 container.

16 “(4) SCHOOL FOOD AUTHORITY.—The term
17 ‘school food authority’ has the meaning given the
18 term in section 210.2 of title 7, Code of Federal
19 Regulations (or any successor regulation).

20 “(5) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term ‘tribal
21 organization’ has the meaning given the term in sec-
22 tion 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-
23 cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).”.

24 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 3 of the
25 Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C.

- 1 1752) is amended by striking “sections 13 and 17” and
- 2 inserting “sections 13, 17, and 30”.

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