

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4455

To amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to extend certain certification periods for the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 16, 2021

Mrs. HAYES (for herself and Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to extend certain certification periods for the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children, 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. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN WIC CERTIFICATION**
4 **PERIODS.**

5 (a) EXPANSION OF ADJUNCTIVE ELIGIBILITY.—Sec-
6 tion 17(d)(2)(A) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42
7 U.S.C. 1786(d)(2)(A)) is amended—

8 (1) in clause (ii)—

1 (A) in subclause (I), by inserting “resides
2 in a household (as such term is defined in sec-
3 tion 3 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008
4 (7 U.S.C. 2012)) that” before “receives”; and

5 (B) in subclause (II), by striking “; or”
6 and inserting a semicolon;

7 (2) by amending clause (iii) to read as follows:

8 “(iii)(I) is enrolled in medical assist-
9 ance under title XIX of the Social Security
10 Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) or child
11 health assistance under title XXI of the
12 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397aa et
13 seq.); or

14 “(II) is a member of a family in which
15 a pregnant woman, postpartum woman, in-
16 fant, or child receives such assistance;”;
17 and

18 (3) by adding at the end the following:

19 “(iv) is enrolled as a participant in a program
20 authorized under the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
21 9831 et seq.) or resides in a household in which one
22 or more children is enrolled as a participant in such
23 a Head Start program;

24 “(v) resides in a household that receives assist-
25 ance under the food distribution program on Indian

1 reservations established under section 4(b) of the
2 Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2013(b));
3 or

4 “(vi) resides in a household that receives assist-
5 ance from a nutrition assistance program funded by
6 the consolidated block grants for Puerto Rico and
7 the American Samoa established under section 19 of
8 the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C.
9 2028).”.

10 (b) CERTIFICATION WITHIN ONE HOUSEHOLD FAM-
11 ILY; CERTIFICATION OF INFANTS.—Section 17(d)(3)(A)
12 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C.
13 1786)(d)(3)(A)) is amended—

14 (1) in clause (i), by striking “clause (ii)” and
15 inserting “clauses (ii) and (v)”; and

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

17 “(iv) CERTIFICATION WITHIN ONE
18 HOUSEHOLD FAMILY.—In the case of an
19 individual who is a member of a household
20 participating in the program pursuant to
21 clauses (i), (ii), or (iii) of paragraph (2)(A)
22 and is certified for purposes of such
23 clauses under subparagraph (D) or (E), a
24 local agency may extend or establish, if
25 such an extension or establishment would

1 promote alignment between such family
2 members, a certification period for family
3 members of such individual who—

4 “(I) reside in the same house-
5 hold; and

6 “(II) are—

7 “(aa) participants in the
8 program; or

9 “(bb) eligible to participate
10 in the program.

11 “(v) CERTIFICATION OF INFANTS.—A
12 State shall certify for participation, with-
13 out further application, an infant born to
14 a pregnant individual who is participating
15 in the program pursuant to clause (iii) of
16 paragraph (2)(A).

17 “(vi) RECERTIFICATION.—Before re-
18 questing new income documentation for
19 purposes of recertifying an individual
20 under the program, a State shall—

21 “(I) determine whether such indi-
22 vidual is eligible for recertification
23 under subparagraph (E); and

24 “(II) if such individual is so eligi-
25 ble—

1 “(aa) recertify such indi-
2 vidual; and

3 “(bb) notify such individual
4 of such recertification.”.

5 (c) EXTENSION OF CHILD CERTIFICATION PERI-
6 ODS.—Section 17(d)(3)(A)(iii) of the Child Nutrition Act
7 of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(d)(3)(A)(iii)) is amended by
8 striking “1 year” and inserting “2 years”.

9 (d) AUTOMATIC ELIGIBILITY FOR CHILDREN IN KIN-
10 SHIP FAMILIES.—Section 17(f)(1)(C)(ix) of the Child Nu-
11 trition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(f)(1)(C)(ix)) is
12 amended by inserting “a kinship family,” after “under the
13 care of”.

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