

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 487

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to expand the operation of the State employment and training programs under such Act, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 25, 2021

Ms. SPANBERGER (for herself and Mr. UPTON) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to expand the operation of the State employment and training programs under such Act, 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 “Revitalize and Expand
5 SNAP Education and Training for America’s Future Act”
6 or the “RESET for America’s Future Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS.**

2 (a) STREAMLINED EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING
3 PROGRAM.—The Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7
4 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) is amended—

5 (1) in section 6(d)(4) by inserting after sub-
6 paragraph (K) the following:

7 “(K–1)(i) Not later than 90 days after the
8 effective date of this subparagraph, the Sec-
9 retary shall issue the following streamlined
10 guidelines for the implementation of an employ-
11 ment and training program under this subpara-
12 graph:

13 “(I) Guidelines that permit the State
14 agency to submit for full and expedited
15 Federal reimbursement of any costs in-
16 curred under such program, with no match
17 requirement, that meets 1 or more of the
18 following:

19 “(aa) Activities that include an
20 evaluation to measure employment
21 and earnings outcomes for partici-
22 pants in such program, with a meth-
23 odology that could, in the event that
24 the evaluation finds positive program
25 impacts, subsequently classify the pro-
26 gram as having a high or moderate

1 causal evidence rating that shows a
2 demonstrated capacity to improve em-
3 ployment and earnings outcomes for
4 program participants, as defined by
5 the Secretary of Labor under section
6 3026 of Public Law 115–12.

7 “(bb) Activities under such pro-
8 gram that have already been evalu-
9 ated, and found to positively affect
10 employment and earnings outcomes
11 for program participants, with a
12 methodology that has a high or mod-
13 erate causal evidence rating, as de-
14 fined by the Secretary of Labor under
15 section 3206 of Public Law 115–123.

16 “(cc) Activities under such pro-
17 gram that use at least 20 percent of
18 the funding allocated through such
19 program through a performance or
20 outcomes contract to pay for measur-
21 able improvements in outcomes re-
22 lated to improved employment earn-
23 ings, credential attainment, or meas-
24 urable attainment of new vocational
25 skills for eligible participants served,

1 including any reporting measures re-
2 lated to these outcomes which State
3 agencies must track and report annu-
4 ally under regulations issued by the
5 Secretary under this Act, or any
6 benchmarks clearly shown by credible
7 research to be highly correlated with
8 these key outcomes if these outcomes
9 are measured using administrative
10 data validated by a third-party eval-
11 uator if—

12 “(AA) any participants eligi-
13 ble to participate in the supple-
14 mental nutrition assistance pro-
15 gram are eligible for such pro-
16 gram;

17 “(BB) the State agency
18 demonstrates that the population
19 served by the program under this
20 subparagraph is similar to the
21 population that participates in
22 the supplemental nutrition assist-
23 ance program in the local area
24 served with respect to both demo-

1 graphics and barriers to employ-
2 ment; and

3 “(CC) funds provided under
4 this subparagraph and designed
5 for the purposes of making out-
6 come-based payments may be
7 held by the State agency or local
8 agency for the purpose of making
9 payments required under such
10 contract based on a measurable
11 outcome, for a period not to ex-
12 ceed 5 years notwithstanding any
13 other provision of the law.

14 “(dd) Activities under such pro-
15 grams that use an additional amount,
16 not to exceed 20 percent of the total
17 amount, covered by activities under
18 such program that meet 1 of the 3
19 criteria specified in items (aa)
20 through (cc) for purposes that may be
21 necessary to administer or evaluate
22 projects or programs permitted under
23 any of such criteria, or to pay for
24 technical assistance to better admin-
25 ister or evaluate such projects or pro-

1 grams, except that the maximum al-
2 lowable percentage permitted in this
3 item may be increased from 20 to 30
4 percent for providers that coordinate
5 and cost-share with other programs
6 funded under the Workforce Innova-
7 tion and Opportunity Act of 2014.

8 “(ii) Program participants who are eligible
9 for any services, or who enroll in any program
10 or project under this paragraph, shall remain
11 eligible, notwithstanding any other provision in
12 this Act, for not less than 6 months.

13 “(iii) Any State agency that receives funds
14 under this subparagraph shall—

15 “(I) as part of its current reporting
16 requirements, include in its report to the
17 Secretary details on how such funds were
18 allocated under this subparagraph, and
19 make these findings available to the public
20 not later than 1 year after receiving funds
21 under this subparagraph;

22 “(II) release, as part of its reporting
23 requirements to the Secretary, a final pub-
24 licly available report to the Secretary
25 with—

1 “(aa) detailed findings on pro-
2 grams funded under this subpara-
3 graph not later than 1 year of the end
4 of such programs; and

5 “(bb) any associated evaluations
6 funded under this paragraph (includ-
7 ing measurable employment, wage, or
8 other relevant outcomes for programs
9 and services funded under this sub-
10 paragraph; and

11 “(III) the findings of any associated
12 evaluations.

13 “(iv) If the Secretary does not issue guide-
14 lines by the deadline specified in clause (i),
15 State agencies may proactively apply for full re-
16 imbursement under this subparagraph if they
17 clearly demonstrate to the Secretary and to the
18 public how the activities for which they request
19 full reimbursement under this subparagraph
20 meet the criteria and requirements specified in
21 this subparagraph.

22 “(v) Nothing in this subparagraph shall be
23 construed—

24 “(I) to create any new reporting re-
25 quirement, compliance requirement, or

other requirement for any State agency or local agency that implements that do not wish to receive funds under this subparagraph and the heightened reimbursement levels made available under this subparagraph; or

“(II) to create a new reporting, compliance, or other requirement for any program, project, or service funded through the program under this subparagraph but not funded under this paragraph.”; and

(2) in section 16(h)(1) by adding at end the following:

“In addition to funds allocated under the preceding sentence, the Secretary shall reserve for allocation to State agencies, to remain available for 24 months, from funds made available for each fiscal year under section 18(a)(1), \$100,000,000 for such fiscal year for reimbursements required under section 6(d)(4)(K–1), except that at least \$30,000,000 of such funds shall remain available for 60 months to cover any longer-term outcome-based payments authorized under subitem (CC) of section 6(d)(4)(K–1)(1)(i)(I)(cc).”.

(b) REIMBURSEMENT FOR ADDITIONAL SUPPORTIVE SERVICES SUPPLEMENTING EVIDENCE-BASED, EVIDENCE-BASED,

1 DENCE-BUILDING OR OUTCOMES-BASED ACTIVITIES.—

2 Section 16(h)(3) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008

3 (7 U.S.C. 2025(h)(3)) is amended—

4 (1) by striking “to 50 per centum” and insert-
5 ing the following:

6 “to—

7 “(A) 50 percent”, and

8 (2) by striking “paragraph (1)(F), except” and
9 inserting the following:

10 “paragraph (1)(F); or

11 “(B) 100 percent of the total amount of
12 payments made or costs incurred by the State
13 agency in connection with transportation costs
14 and other expenses reasonably necessary and
15 directly related to participation in—

16 “(i) an employment and training pro-
17 gram described in section 6(d)(4)(K–1);
18 and

19 “(ii) an employment and training pro-
20 gram described in section (6)(d)(4)(K) if
21 such program provides the activities de-
22 scribed in subitem (aa), (bb), or (cc) of
23 section 6(d)(4)(K–1);

24 for the period beginning on the effective date of
25 this subparagraph and ending on the date the

1 public health emergency declaration by the Sec-
2 retary of Health and Human Services under
3 section 319 of the Public Health Service Act
4 based on an outbreak of coronavirus disease
5 2019 (COVID–19) is lifted or 2 years after the
6 effective date of this subparagraph, whichever is
7 later.”.

8 (c) USE OF FEDERAL FUNDING STREAMS COUNT AS
9 MATCHING FUNDS TO INCREASE ALIGNMENT.—Section
10 16(h)(2) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C.
11 2025(h)(2)) is amended—

12 (1) by inserting “(i)” after “(2)”, and

13 (2) by adding at end the following:

14 “(ii)(I) Effective during the period beginning on
15 the effective date of this clause and ending on Sep-
16 tember 30, 2023, a State agency incurs costs in car-
17 rying out such program during a fiscal year that ex-
18 ceed the amount allocated to the State agency under
19 paragraph (1) for such fiscal year, then In carrying
20 out such program such State may contribute addi-
21 tional funds obtained from other sources, including
22 Federal, State, or private funds, on the condition
23 that the use of the contributions is permissible under
24 Federal law.

1 “(II) The State agency shall submit a report to
2 the Secretary containing information to identify each
3 source of Federal funds contributed under subclause
4 (II). such report shall include details on how the
5 provider will partner with other local and State enti-
6 ties funded by the Federal program in question that
7 is being counted toward the match requirement to
8 do the following—

9 “(aa) improve measurable outcomes for
10 program participants;

11 “(bb) streamline service delivery, co-locate
12 services, align services across programs, stream-
13 line service delivery for program participants, or
14 make it easier for program participants eligible
15 for multiple programs to participate in cost-
16 sharing across those programs for services in
17 which they are enrolled; and

18 “(cc) otherwise partner with other entities
19 in the area to improve program performance
20 management.”.

21 (d) FULL REIMBURSEMENT OF STATE-LEVEL DATA
22 COSTS TO FACILITATE IMPROVED EMPLOYMENT AND
23 TRAINING PROGRAM ENROLLMENT, INTERPROGRAM
24 ALIGNMENT, PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT, AND OTHER

1 PURPOSES.—Section 16(h)(4) of the Food and Nutrition
2 Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2035(h)(4)) is amended—

3 (1) by striking “Funds” and inserting “(A) Ex-
4 cept as provided in subparagraph (B), funds”, and

5 (2) by adding at end the following:

6 “(B) The Secretary shall also reimburse each State
7 agency in an amount equal to 100 percent of the total
8 amount of payments made or costs incurred by the State
9 agency to build, modernize or improve State and local data
10 systems or data processes related to the supplemental nu-
11 trition assistance program and employment, and to enroll-
12 ment and eligibility for training programs carried out
13 under this Act, for any of the following purposes if the
14 personal identifiable information of program participants
15 is not compromised or made less secure in the process and
16 if the security of such systems is in no way compromised
17 and if such costs are counted toward total allowable indi-
18 rect maximum costs related to administering the program
19 that a State may claim under guidance issued by the Sec-
20 retary:

21 “(i) To make it easier to track program and
22 participant outcomes.

23 “(ii) To make it easier to increase system inter-
24 operability with other Federal, State, and local data
25 systems such that program participants can be more

1 easily matched and served across related workforce
2 and training programs, for the purposes of better
3 aligning and coordinating service delivery across pro-
4 grams.

5 “(iii) To make establishing employment and
6 training participant eligibility measurably easier,
7 faster, or more user-friendly for local providers.

8 “(iv) A combination of any of the purposes de-
9 scribed in clauses (i) through (iii).”.

10 **SEC. 3. REPORT TO THE CONGRESS.**

11 The Secretary of Agriculture shall commission a de-
12 tailed and thorough national assessment of the employ-
13 ment and training programs carried out under the Food
14 and Nutrition Act of 2008, consulting with experts, pro-
15 gram providers, State and local stakeholders, and individ-
16 uals with relevant lived experience across the country to
17 determine what is working well, what is not working well,
18 and to develop a strategy for continuous improvement, and
19 shall report to the Congress on the Secretary’s findings
20 not later than September 30, 2022, with a follow up as-
21 sessment based on continuous feedback and learning not
22 later than September 30, 2024. Such report shall include
23 findings and recommendations on the following topics:

24 (1) Strategies to more rigorously measure the
25 impact of such program.

1 (2) Strategies to improve the measurable im-
2 pact of such programs on key outcomes, including
3 employment, earnings and economic self-sufficiency
4 outcomes for participants, and reporting measures
5 related to these outcomes that States are required to
6 track and report annually under regulations issued
7 by the Secretary under such Act.

8 (3) Strategies to increase alignment and coordi-
9 nation between SNAP E&T and other Federal work-
10 force development programs, including in particular
11 those funded and authorized under the Workforce
12 Innovation and Training Act (WIOA) of 2014, the
13 Strengthening Career and Technical Education for
14 the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) of 2018, and
15 other relevant Federal programs.

16 (4) An assessment specifically of the amend-
17 ments made by this Act, in particular the effect of
18 allowing States and providers to use other Federal
19 funding to satisfy the matching requirement applica-
20 ble to such program (including how widespread this
21 allowable use of other Federal funds has been used,
22 whether and how that use has worked to incentivize
23 local providers to coordinate programming effectively
24 with other workforce and training providers funded
25 through other Federal programs and with other pro-

1 viders of relevant supportive services, and the likely
2 impact over time of extending that provision of law).

3 (5) An assessment in particular of other provi-
4 sions of the such amendments that will terminate in
5 2023, and how such other amendments were imple-
6 mented by States, local governments, and providers.

7 (6) An assessment of how many providers of
8 such programs are opting into the heightened reim-
9 bursement authorized under other provisions of the
10 such amendments.

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