

139TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 3

To amend Section 6 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to repeal the work requirement that disqualifies abled-bodied and struggling individuals

IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 16TH, 2021

Mr. LIGHTWOOD (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON-KOAY, Ms. TOWARD, Mr. O’CONNOR, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. TOBY, Mr. FRANCIS, Ms. ALEX, Mr. REYES-GUERRERO, and Mr. SOLOMON) introduced the following bill;

A BILL

To amend Section 6 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to repeal the work requirement that disqualifies abled-bodied and struggling individuals

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Expanding Access to Food and Nutrition Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

- (a) According to the United States Department of Agriculture 35.2 million people lived in food-insecure households. 9 million adults lived in households with very low food security, and 5.3 million children lived in food-insecure households.

- (b) Children are more likely to encounter food insecurity more than any other group within the United States, causing health risks and a burden on families that don't have enough money to afford food.
- (c) In 2019, households below the poverty line, single mothers, single adults, and people of color scored the highest among the likability of food insecurities.
- (d) SNAP restores access to healthy food, improves overall health, reduces poverty, and helps save money that could be used for other necessities.
- (e) Recent statistics show that about 6 million individuals are subject to the program's work requirement, which puts their SNAP benefits at risk if they don't comply.
- (f) Black Americans are more likely to confront unemployment which the current work requirements would disproportionately prevent them from receiving benefits
- (g) Families and individuals experiencing homelessness are more likely to leave the program or withdraw their application from programs because they simply don't meet the work requirement.

SECTION 3. AMENDING THE FOOD AND NUTRITION ACT OF 2008.

- (a) WORK REQUIREMENTS.— Section 6 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 ([7 U.S.C. 2015](#)) is amended—

(1) in subsections (d)(4)(B)(ii)(I)(bb), (d)(4)(N)(iii)(I)(bb), (d)(4)(N)(iv)(II), and (d)(4)(N)(v)(IV) by striking “or subsection (o)”, and

(2) by striking subsection (o) in its entirety.

SEC. 4. ENACTMENT.

EFFECTIVE DATE.—This Act shall come into effect 30 days upon passage.
