

## 117TH CONGRESS H. R. 6203

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to allow for blended workforces to carry out the supplemental nutrition assistance program under certain conditions.

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**DECEMBER 9, 2021** 

Mr. Bacon introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

## A BILL

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to allow for blended workforces to carry out the supplemental nutrition assistance program under certain conditions.

- 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 "Emergency SNAP
- 5 Staffing Flexibility Act of 2021".
- 6 SEC. 2. TEMPORARY EMERGENCY SNAP STAFFING FLEXI-
- 7 BILITY.
- 8 (a) In General.—Notwithstanding section
- 9 11(e)(6)(B) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, a

- 1 State agency (as defined in section 3 of the Food and Nu-
- 2 trition Act of 2008) may, by contract with the State agen-
- 3 cy at a reasonable cost in accordance with the State agen-
- 4 cy's standard contracting rules, hire a contractor to under-
- 5 take supplemental nutrition assistance program certifi-
- 6 cation or carry out any other function of the State agency
- 7 under such program.
- 8 (b) Use.—A State agency may use the authority pro-
- 9 vided in subsection (a) when the State experiences in-
- 10 creases in supplemental nutrition assistance program ap-
- 11 plications or an inability to timely process such applica-
- 12 tions from causes that include—
- 13 (1) pandemics and other health emergencies,
- 14 (2) seasonal workforce cycles,
- 15 (3) temporary staffing shortages, and
- 16 (4) weather or other natural disasters.
- 17 (c) REQUIREMENTS.—A State agency that hires a
- 18 contractor under subsection (a) shall ensure such action—
- 19 (1) is consistent with all principles under sec-
- tion 900.603 of title 5 of the Code of Federal Regu-
- 21 lations; and
- 22 (2) does not supplant existing merit-based per-
- sonnel in the State.

1	(d) Notification.—A State agency shall notify the
2	Secretary of Agriculture of the intent to use the authority
3	provided in this section.
4	(e) Duration.—To the maximum extent practicable,
5	any new contract entered into, or any contract modified,
6	under subsection (a) shall terminate not later than the
7	date on which the cause for the increase in supplemental
8	nutrition assistance program applications or an inability
9	to timely process such applications subsides.
10	(f) Program Design.—Any action taken by a State
11	agency under subsection (a) shall not be—
12	(1) considered to be a major change in the op-
13	erations of such State agency for the purposes of
14	section 11(a)(4) of the Food and Nutrition Act of
15	2008 (7  U.S.C.  2020(a)(4)),  or

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(2) subject to any requirement specified in such

section.

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