

104<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 2003

To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to make temporary assistance available to support community food security projects designed to meet the food needs of low-income people, increase the self-reliance of communities in providing for their own food needs, and promote comprehensive, inclusive, and future-oriented solutions to local food, farm, and nutrition problems.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 11, 1995

Mr. DE LA GARZA (for himself, Mr. EMERSON, Mr. BALDACCI, Mr. BROWN of California, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DELLUMS, Mr. FARR, Mr. FAZIO of California, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. FROST, Mr. GEJDENSON, Mr. HALL of Ohio, Ms. KAPTUR, Mrs. KENNELLY, Mr. OLVER, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. STENHOLM, and Mr. WILSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

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## A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to make temporary assistance available to support community food security projects designed to meet the food needs of low-income people, increase the self-reliance of communities in providing for their own food needs, and promote comprehensive, inclusive, and future-oriented solutions to local food, farm, and nutrition problems.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2        *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Community Food Se-  
3 curity Act of 1995”.

4 **SEC. 2. ASSISTANCE FOR COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY**  
5 **PROJECTS.**

6 (a) **COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY PROJECTS DE-**  
7 **FINED.**—For purposes of this section, the term “commu-  
8 nity food security project” means a community-based  
9 project that requires a one-time infusion of Federal assist-  
10 ance to become self-sustaining and that is designed to  
11 meet the food needs of low-income people, increase the  
12 self-reliance of communities in providing for their own  
13 food needs, and promote comprehensive, inclusive, and fu-  
14 ture-oriented solutions to local food, farm, and nutrition  
15 problems.

16 (b) **AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE.**—The  
17 Secretary of Agriculture may make grants to assist eligible  
18 entities to establish and carry out community food security  
19 projects.

20 (c) **ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.**—To be eligible for a grant  
21 under subsection (b), an entity must meet all of the follow-  
22 ing criteria:

23 (1) The entity must have experience in the area  
24 of—

25 (A) community food work, including the  
26 development of new markets in low-income com-

1 communities for agricultural producers, particularly  
2 small and medium-sized farms; or

3 (B) job training and business development  
4 activities for food-related businesses in low-in-  
5 come communities.

6 (2) The entity must demonstrate competency to  
7 implement a project, provide fiscal accountability,  
8 collect data, and prepare reports and other necessary  
9 documentation.

10 (3) The entity must demonstrate a willingness  
11 to participate in an ongoing assessment of regional  
12 food security and to share information with re-  
13 searchers, practitioners, and other interested parties.

14 (d) PREFERENCE FOR CERTAIN PROJECTS.—In se-  
15 lecting community food security projects to be supported  
16 by grants under subsection (b), the Secretary shall give  
17 a preference to projects designed—

18 (1) to develop linkages between two or more  
19 sectors of the food system;

20 (2) to support the development of entrepreneur-  
21 ial solutions to local food problems;

22 (3) to develop innovative linkages between the  
23 for-profit and nonprofit food sectors; or

24 (4) to encourage long-term planning activities  
25 and multi-system, interagency approaches.

1 (e) MATCHING FUNDS REQUIREMENTS.—

2 (1) REQUIREMENTS.—The Federal share of the  
3 cost of establishing or carrying out a community  
4 food security project that receives assistance under  
5 subsection (b) may not exceed 50 percent of such  
6 cost during the term of the grant.

7 (2) CALCULATION.—In providing for the re-  
8 maining share of the cost of carrying out a commu-  
9 nity food security project, the entity receiving the  
10 grant shall provide for such share through a pay-  
11 ment in cash or in kind, fairly evaluated, including  
12 facilities, equipment, or services. The entity may  
13 provide for such share through private, State, or  
14 local sources.

15 (f) TERM OF GRANT.—A particular community food  
16 security project may be supported by only a single grant  
17 under subsection (b). The term of the grant may not ex-  
18 ceed three years.

19 (g) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND RELATED INFOR-  
20 MATION.—The Secretary shall provide technical assistance  
21 regarding community food security projects, processes,  
22 and development to entities seeking such information. The  
23 Secretary shall provide for the sharing of information  
24 about community food security projects and issues among  
25 and between government, private for-profit and nonprofit

1 groups, and the public through publications, conferences,  
2 and other appropriate forums. The Secretary shall also  
3 participate in assessments of regional food security and  
4 share information with researchers, practitioners, and  
5 other interested parties.

6 (h) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall provide for  
7 the evaluation of the success of community food security  
8 projects supported using funds under this section. Not  
9 later than January 30, 2000, the Secretary shall submit  
10 to Congress a report regarding the results of the evalua-  
11 tion.

12 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
13 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary  
14 \$2,500,000 for each of the fiscal years 1996 through 2000  
15 to carry out this section.

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