

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1967

To rename the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 6, 2025

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN (for herself, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. CARSON, Mr. COHEN, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Ms. NORTON, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Mrs. MCIVER, and Ms. TLAIB) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

A BILL

To rename the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch 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 “Renaming the National
5 School Lunch Program Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) That Jean E. Fairfax was a civil rights ac-
9 tivist who—

1 (A) was born to parents who were the first
2 in their family to be legally free;

3 (B) fought for equitable educational ac-
4 cess, challenged systemic employment discrimi-
5 nation, and led influential federal policy innova-
6 tions in all realms to support working class and
7 marginalized peoples;

8 (C) assisted Black families navigating
9 school integration after the ruling of *Brown v.*
10 *Board of Education*;

11 (D) joined the National Association for the
12 Advancement of Colored People's Legal Defense
13 Fund and established the Division of Legal In-
14 formation and Community Service; and

15 (E) continued to serve her community
16 through civil rights work and philanthropy after
17 retirement.

18 (2) It is evidenced that Jean E. Fairfax con-
19 tributed greatly to the National School Lunch Pro-
20 gram in an equitable manner through—

21 (A) organizing five national women's orga-
22 nizations and creating the Committee on School
23 Lunch Participation to study the National
24 School Lunch Program;

1 (B) testifying before Congress on multiple
2 occasions to reveal that the implementation of
3 the National School Lunch Program was failing
4 to reach children that needed it most;

5 (C) advocating for increased funding of the
6 National School Lunch Program to serve chil-
7 dren in areas of concentrated poverty that were
8 disproportionately minorities; and

9 (D) having her findings incorporated in
10 National School Lunch Program reform legisla-
11 tion that led to the program becoming more in-
12 clusive.

13 (3) The National School Lunch Program is
14 named after an individual who—

15 (A) objected to anti-lynching bills and civil
16 rights legislation in Congress and affirmed his
17 belief in white supremacy;

18 (B) opposed school integration and was a
19 contributor to the creation of the Southern
20 Manifesto;

21 (C) dismissed concerns of child-welfare ad-
22 vocates, civil rights activists, and women-led or-
23 ganizations during debate over the implementa-
24 tion of the National School Lunch Program;
25 and

1 (D) believed that segregation should be
2 maintained while implementing the National
3 School Lunch Program.

4 **SEC. 3. RENAMING OF RICHARD B. RUSSELL NATIONAL**
5 **SCHOOL LUNCH ACT.**

6 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—The first section of the Richard
7 B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751
8 note) is amended by striking “Richard B. Russell National
9 School Lunch Act” and inserting “Jean E. Fairfax Na-
10 tional School Lunch Act”.

11 (b) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—Each of the fol-
12 lowing provisions of law is amended by striking “Richard
13 B. Russell National School Lunch Act” and inserting
14 “Jean E. Fairfax National School Lunch Act”:

15 (1) Sections 3(a)(2)(C), 3(b)(1)(A)(iii)(III),
16 3(e)(1)(D)(iii)(III), 17(b)(2), and 18(3)(A) of the
17 Commodity Distribution Reform Act and WIC
18 Amendments of 1987 (7 U.S.C. 612c note).

19 (2) Section 5(l)(2)(D) of the Agriculture and
20 Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 612c
21 note).

22 (3) Section 10603(b) of the Farm Security and
23 Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 612c–4(b)).

24 (4) Sections 4301(b)(2), 4301(b)(3),
25 4304(a)(2)(A), 4304(a)(2)(B), 4305(c), 4305(c)(1),

1 4306(a)(3), 4306(b), 14222(b)(1), 14222(e), and
2 14222(e)(1) of the Food, Conservation, and Energy
3 Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 612e–6(b)(1), 612e–6(e),
4 612e–6(e)(1) 2208 note; 42 U.S.C. 1755a,
5 1758(b)(2), 1758(b)(3), 1769a note).

6 (5) Section 404 of the Agricultural Act of 1949
7 (7 U.S.C. 1424).

8 (6) Section 282(f)(2)(b) of the Act entitled “To
9 provide for further research into basic laws and
10 principles relating to agriculture and to improve and
11 facilitate the marketing and distribution of agricul-
12 tural products”, approved August 14, 1946 (7 U.S.C
13 1638a(f)(2)(b)).

14 (7) Section 201(a) of the Act entitled “An Act
15 to extend the Agricultural Trade Development and
16 Assistance Act of 1954, and for other purposes”, ap-
17 proved September 21, 1959 (7 U.S.C. 1431c(a)).

18 (8) Sections 1101(e), 2102(a), 2102(b),
19 2102(c), 2102(d)(1), 2202(a)(1), 2202(a)(2)(A),
20 2202(b), 2202(c), 2202(e)(2)(A)(ii), 2202(f)(1)(A),
21 2202(f)(1)(C), 2201(f)(1)(D), and 2202(f)(3), of the
22 Families First Coronavirus Response Act (7 U.S.C.
23 2011 note; 42 U.S.C. 1760 note).

1 (9) Sections 11(u)(1), 11(u)(2)(A), and
2 11(u)(2)(B), of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7
3 U.S.C. 2020(u)(1), 2020(u)(2)(A), 2020(u)(2)(B)).

4 (10) Section 28(a)(1)(B) of the Food Stamp
5 Act of 1964 (7 U.S.C. 2036a(a)(1)(B)).

6 (11) Section 211(a) of the Agricultural Trade
7 Suspension Adjustment Act of 1980 (title II of the
8 Agricultural Act of 1980) (7 U.S.C. 4004(a)).

9 (12) Sections 413(b)(2) and 413(b)(3) of the
10 Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education
11 Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7633(b)(2),
12 7633(b)(3)).

13 (13) Sections 403(c)(2)(C), 422(b)(3),
14 423(d)(3), 741(a)(1), 742(a), and 742(b)(2)(A) and
15 the caption for section 742 of the Personal Respon-
16 sibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of
17 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1183a note, 1613(c)(2)(C), 1615(a),
18 1615(b)(2)(A), 1632(b)(3); 42 U.S.C. 1751 note).

19 (14) Section 245A(h)(4)(A) of the Immigration
20 and Nationality Act approved June 27, 1952, (8
21 U.S.C. 1255a(h)(4)(A)).

22 (15) Section 645(a)(3)(C)(iii) of the James M.
23 Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fis-
24 cal Year 2023 (10 U.S.C. 1060a note).

1 (16) Sections 1154(a)(2)(A)(i), 1154(a)(3)(A),
2 and 2243(b) of title 10, United States Code.

3 (17) Sections 200(11)(A)(i)(II),
4 200(11)(A)(ii)(I), 200(11)(A)(ii)(II),
5 200(11)(B)(ii)(I)(bb), 404B(1)(A), 479,
6 483(a)(2)(ii)(XVII)(cc), 894(b)(1)(B), and
7 894(b)(5) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
8 U.S.C. 1021(11)(A)(i)(II), 1021(11)(A)(ii)(I),
9 1021(11)(A)(ii)(II), 1021(11)(B)(ii)(I)(bb), 1070a–
10 22(d)(1)(A), 1087ss(d)(2)(C), 1090 note,
11 1161y(b)(1)(B), 1161y(b)(5)).

12 (18) Section 444 of the Elementary and Sec-
13 ondary Education Amendments of 1967 (20 U.S.C.
14 1232g(b)(1)(K)).

15 (19) Sections 1113(a)(5)(A), 2221(b)(3)(B)(i),
16 4611(d)(2)(B), and 7003(b)(2)(B)(i)(III)(bb)(BB)
17 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
18 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6313(a)(5)(A), 6641(b)(3)(B)(i),
19 7261(d)(2)(B), 7703(b)(2)(B)(i)(III)(bb)(BB)).

20 (20) Section 6122(3) of the America COM-
21 PETES Act (20 U.S.C. 9832(3)).

22 (21) Section 423(j)(2)(D) of the Federal Food,
23 Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 350l(j)(2)(D)).

1 (22) Section 3(36)(A)(iv) of the Workforce In-
2 novation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
3 3102(36)(A)(iv)).

4 (23) Section 3803(c)(2)(C)(xiii) of title 31,
5 United States Code.

6 (24) Section 252(i) of the Juvenile Justice and
7 Delinquency Prevention Act 1974 (34 U.S.C.
8 11162(i)).

9 (25) Section 402a(f)(2)(A) of title 37, United
10 States Code.

11 (26) Section 113(e)(8)(A) of title 40, United
12 States Code.

13 (27) Sections 722(b)(3)(A)(i), 722(b)(3)(B)(i),
14 722(b)(3)(C)(i), 722(b)(3)(D)(i), 722(d)(3),
15 722(d)(4)(A), 722(d)(5), 722(d)(7), 722(d)(11)(A),
16 and 722(d)(13) of title VII of division N and section
17 904(a)(6)(B) of title IX of division N of the Consoli-
18 dated Appropriations Act, 2021 (42 U.S.C. 1751
19 note; 47 U.S.C. 1752(a)(6)(B)).

20 (28) Sections 222(3), 307(b)(1), 307(b)(1)(A),
21 307(b)(2), and 336(a) of the Healthy, Hunger-Free
22 Kids Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 1751 note, 1766 note).

23 (29) Sections 2(4), 125, 301(a), 301(b)(1),
24 301(a), 301(b)(1), 301(b)(2), and 301(b)(3) of the

1 Healthy Meals for Healthy Americans Act of 1994
2 (42 U.S.C. 1751 note).

3 (30) Sections 2(a)(1), 2(d)(1), 2(d)(2), 3(a)(1),
4 and 3(b) of the Keep Kids Fed Act of 2022 (42
5 U.S.C. 1753 note, 1760 note, 1766 note).

6 (31) Sections 4033(b)(3)(B), 4213(e),
7 4213(e)(1), and 4214(a) of the Agricultural Act of
8 2014 (25 U.S.C. 1685(b)(3)(B); 42 U.S.C.
9 1755b(e); 1755b(e)(1), 1769a note).

10 (32) Section 4207(a)(1) of the Agriculture Im-
11 provement Act of 2018 (42 U.S.C. 1760 note).

12 (33) Sections 1107(a), 1107(b), and 1107(c)(1)
13 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (42
14 U.S.C. 1766 note).

15 (34) Sections 119(i), 119(j)(1), and
16 119(j)(3)(C) of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reau-
17 thORIZATION Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C. 1766 note).

18 (35) Sections 3(a)(1), 3(a)(2), 3(a)(5), 3(b),
19 4(b)(1)(B), 4(b)(2)(B)(ii), 4(b)(3), 4(b)(4),
20 4(e)(1)(A), 7(a)(1)(A), 7(a)(2)(A), 7(a)(3), 7(a)(4),
21 7(a)(6), 7(a)(7), 7(a)(8), 7(a)(9)(A), 7(e)(3), 7(f),
22 7(g)(1)(A)(ii)(I), 7(g)(1)(B), 7(g)(1)(D)(i),
23 7(g)(1)(D)(ii), 7(h)(2)(A), 7(i)(3)(A), 7(i)(3)(B)(ii),
24 10(a), 10(b)(1)(a), 10(c), 11, 13, 16(b), 19(d),
25 19(h)(3)(D), 19(h)(5)(B)(vi), and 23(d)(2) of the

1 Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1772(a)(1),
2 1772(a)(2), 1772(a)(5), 1772(b), 1773(b)(1)(B),
3 1773(b)(2)(B)(ii), 1773(b)(3), 1773(b)(4),
4 1773(e)(1)(A), 1776(a)(1)(A), 1776(a)(2)(A),
5 1776(a)(3), 1776(a)(4), 1776(a)(6), 1776(a)(7),
6 1776(a)(8), 1776(a)(9)(A), 1776(e)(3), 1776(f),
7 1776(g)(1)(A)(ii)(I), 1776(g)(1)(B),
8 1776(g)(1)(D)(i), 1776(g)(1)(D)(ii), 1776(h)(2)(A),
9 1776(i)(3)(A), 1776(i)(3)(B)(ii), 1779(a),
10 1779(b)(1)(a), 1779(c), 1780(c), 1782, 1785(b),
11 1788(d), 1788(h)(3)(D), 1788(h)(5)(B)(vi),
12 1793(d)(2)).

13 (36) Section 4(8)(A) of the National Science
14 Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C.
15 1862n note).

16 (37) Section 3(c)(6)(B) of the STEM Edu-
17 cation Act of 2015 (42 U.S.C. 1862q(c)(6)(B)).

18 (38) Sections 658E(c)(2)(E)(i)(IV) and
19 658O(b)(3) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation
20 Act of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 9858m(b)(3),
21 9858e(c)(2)(E)(i)(IV)).

22 (39) Section 40541(d)(1)(B)(i) of the Infra-
23 structure Investment and Jobs Act (42 U.S.C.
24 18831(d)(1)(B)(i)).

1 (40) Subsection (b) of the first section of the
2 Act entitled “An Act to extend the application of
3 certain laws to American Samoa”, as approved Sep-
4 tember 25, 1962 (48 U.S.C. 1666(b)).

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