

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to establish a competitive grant program to enable area agencies on aging and local nutrition service providers to purchase, customize, or repair vehicles with hot and cold food storage for delivering meals to older individuals through the Congregate Nutrition Program or the Home-Delivered Nutrition Program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Ms. COLLINS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to establish a competitive grant program to enable area agencies on aging and local nutrition service providers to purchase, customize, or repair vehicles with hot and cold food storage for delivering meals to older individuals through the Congregate Nutrition Program or the Home-Delivered Nutrition Program.

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 “Helping Our Most El-
3 derly Secure Meals Act” or the “HOME Meals Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. GRANTS FOR VEHICLES WITH HOT AND COLD FOOD**
5 **STORAGE FOR MEAL DELIVERY TO OLDER IN-**
6 **DIVIDUALS.**

7 Subpart 3 of part C of title III of the Older Ameri-
8 cans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030g–21 et seq.) is amend-
9 ed by adding at the end the following:

10 **“SEC. 340. GRANTS FOR VEHICLES WITH HOT AND COLD**
11 **FOOD STORAGE FOR MEAL DELIVERY.**

12 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Secretary shall
13 award grants in accordance with subsection (c) on a com-
14 petitive basis to States receiving a grant under section 331
15 or 336 to enable such States to provide direct funds to
16 area agencies on aging and local nutrition service pro-
17 viders to purchase, customize, or repair vehicles meeting
18 the requirement under subsection (b) to be used in deliv-
19 ering meals to older individuals through a nutrition
20 project supported or eligible for support under either such
21 section.

22 “(b) VEHICLE REQUIREMENT.—The requirement
23 under this subsection is that the vehicle has the capability
24 to safely store hot food and cold food, as determined by
25 the Assistant Secretary, while delivering meals.

26 “(c) APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS.—

1 “(1) APPLICATIONS.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A State receiving a
3 grant under section 331 or 336 that seeks a
4 grant under this section shall submit an appli-
5 cation to the Assistant Secretary at such time,
6 in such manner, and containing such informa-
7 tion as the Assistant Secretary may reasonably
8 require, including the demonstrations described
9 in subparagraph (B).

10 “(B) DEMONSTRATIONS.—An application
11 under this paragraph shall contain a dem-
12 onstration—

13 “(i) of how the State submitting the
14 application will use the grant to enable nu-
15 trition projects supported or eligible for
16 support under section 331 or 336 to en-
17 hance the delivery of services to older indi-
18 viduals with greatest economic need and
19 older individuals with greatest social need;
20 and

21 “(ii) that each such nutrition project
22 has a program, in effect within the State
23 on the date on which the State submits the
24 application, to use vehicles meeting the re-
25 quirement under subsection (b) to provide

1 nutrition services supported or eligible for
2 support under section 331 or 336.

3 “(2) SELECTION.—The Assistant Secretary, in
4 selecting States meeting the requirements under
5 paragraph (1) to receive a grant under this section,
6 shall give preference to—

7 “(A) States with a high percentage of indi-
8 viduals who are 60 years of age or older;

9 “(B) States with a high rate of individuals
10 at or below the poverty line; and

11 “(C) States with a high level of demand or
12 unmet need for nutrition services provided by
13 area agencies on aging or local nutrition service
14 providers.

15 “(d) GRANT AMOUNT.—A grant awarded under this
16 section shall be for an amount that is equal to or less than
17 \$3,000,000.

18 “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
19 is authorized to be appropriated \$60,000,000 for each of
20 fiscal years 2022 through 2026 to carry out this section.”.