



AMENDMENT NO. _____

Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To provide micro-grants for food security.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—115th Cong., 2d Sess.

AMENDMENT N^o. 3110

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		Page(s)	

GPO: 2016 22-945 (mac)

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. SCHATZ, and Ms. HIRONO) to the amendment (No. _____) proposed by

Viz:

- 1 After section 4303, insert the following:
- 2 **SEC. 4304. MICRO-GRANTS FOR FOOD SECURITY.**
- 3 The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 is
- 4 amended by inserting after section 4405 (7 U.S.C. 7517)
- 5 the following:
- 6 **“SEC. 4406. MICRO-GRANTS FOR FOOD SECURITY.**
- 7 “(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to in-
- 8 crease the quantity and quality of locally grown food
- 9 through small-scale gardening, herding, and livestock op-
- 10 erations in food insecure communities in areas of the

1 United States that have significant levels of food insecu-
2 rity and import a significant quantity of food.

3 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 “(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-
5 tity’ means an entity that—

6 “(A) is—

7 “(i) an individual;

8 “(ii) an Indian tribe (as defined in
9 section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination
10 and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C.
11 5304)) or a consortium of Indian tribes;

12 “(iii) a nonprofit organization en-
13 gaged in increasing food security, as deter-
14 mined by the Secretary, including—

15 “(I) a religious organization;

16 “(II) a food bank; and

17 “(III) a food pantry;

18 “(iv) a federally funded educational
19 facility, including—

20 “(I) a Head Start program or an
21 Early Head Start program carried out
22 under the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
23 9831 et seq.);

24 “(II) a public elementary school
25 or public secondary school;

1 “(III) a public institution of
2 higher education (as defined in section
3 101 of the Higher Education Act of
4 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001));

5 “(IV) a Tribal College or University (as defined in section 316(b) of
6 the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
7 U.S.C. 1059c(b))); and

8 “(V) a job training program; or
9 “(v) a local or Tribal government that
10 may not levy local taxes under State or
11 Federal law; and

12 “(B) is located in an eligible State.

13 “(2) ELIGIBLE STATE.—The term ‘eligible
14 State’ means—

15 “(A) the State of Alaska;

16 “(B) the State of Hawaii;

17 “(C) American Samoa;

18 “(D) the Commonwealth of the Northern
19 Mariana Islands;

20 “(E) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

21 “(F) the Federated States of Micronesia;

22 “(G) Guam;

23 “(H) the Republic of the Marshall Islands;

24 “(I) the Republic of Palau; and

1 “(J) the United States Virgin Islands.

2 “(c) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall dis-
3 tribute funds to the agricultural department or agency of
4 each eligible State for the competitive distribution of sub-
5 grants to eligible entities to increase the quantity and
6 quality of locally grown food in food insecure communities,
7 including through small-scale gardening, herding, and live-
8 stock operations.

9 “(d) DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the amount made avail-
11 able under subsection (g), the Secretary shall dis-
12 tribute—

13 “(A) 40 percent to the State of Alaska;

14 “(B) 40 percent to the State of Hawaii;

15 and

16 “(C) 2.5 percent to each insular area de-
17 scribed in subparagraphs (C) through (J) of
18 subsection (b)(2).

19 “(2) CARRYOVER OF FUNDS.—Funds distrib-
20 uted under paragraph (1) shall remain available
21 until expended.

22 “(3) ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDS.—An eligible
23 State that receives funds under paragraph (1) may
24 use not more than 3 percent of those funds—

1 “(A) to administer the competition for pro-
2 viding subgrants to eligible entities in that eligi-
3 ble State;

4 “(B) to provide oversight of the subgrant
5 recipients in that eligible State; and

6 “(C) to collect data and submit a report to
7 the Secretary under subsection (f)(2).

8 “(e) SUBGRANTS TO ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

9 “(1) AMOUNT OF SUBGRANTS.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The amount of a
11 subgrant to an eligible entity under this section
12 shall be—

13 “(i) in the case of an eligible entity
14 that is an individual, not greater than
15 \$5,000 per year; and

16 “(ii) in the case of an eligible entity
17 described in clauses (ii) through (v) of sub-
18 section (b)(1)(A), not greater than
19 \$10,000 per year.

20 “(B) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—As a
21 condition of receiving a subgrant under this sec-
22 tion, an eligible entity shall provide funds equal
23 to 10 percent of the amount received by the eli-
24 gible entity under the subgrant, to be derived
25 from non-Federal sources.

1 “(C) CARRYOVER OF FUNDS.—Funds re-
2 ceived by an eligible entity that is awarded a
3 subgrant under this section shall remain avail-
4 able until expended.

5 “(2) PRIORITY.—In carrying out the competi-
6 tive distribution of subgrants under subsection (c),
7 an eligible State may give priority to an eligible enti-
8 ty that—

9 “(A) has not previously received a
10 subgrant under this section; or

11 “(B) is located in a community or region
12 in that eligible State with the highest degree of
13 food insecurity, as determined by the agricul-
14 tural department or agency of the eligible State.

15 “(3) PROJECTS.—An eligible State may provide
16 subgrants to 2 or more eligible entities to carry out
17 the same project.

18 “(4) USE OF SUBGRANT FUNDS BY ELIGIBLE
19 ENTITIES.—An eligible entity that receives a
20 subgrant under this section shall use the funds to
21 engage in activities that will increase the quantity
22 and quality of locally grown food, including by—

23 “(A) purchasing gardening tools or equip-
24 ment, soil, soil amendments, seeds, plants, ani-

1 mals, canning equipment, refrigeration, or other
2 items necessary to grow and store food;

3 “(B) purchasing or building composting
4 units;

5 “(C) purchasing or building towers de-
6 signed to grow leafy green vegetables;

7 “(D) expanding an area under cultivation
8 or engaging in other activities necessary to be
9 eligible to receive funding under the environ-
10 mental quality incentives program established
11 under chapter 4 of subtitle D of title XII of the
12 Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa
13 et seq.) for a high tunnel;

14 “(E) engaging in an activity that extends
15 the growing season;

16 “(F) starting or expanding hydroponic and
17 aeroponic farming of any scale;

18 “(G) building, buying, erecting, or repair-
19 ing fencing for livestock, poultry, or reindeer;

20 “(H) purchasing and equipping a slaughter
21 and processing facility approved by the Sec-
22 retary;

23 “(I) travelling to participate in agricultural
24 education provided by—

- 1 “(i) a State cooperative extension
2 service;
- 3 “(ii) a land-grant college or university
4 (as defined in section 1404 of the National
5 Agricultural Research, Extension, and
6 Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.
7 3103));
- 8 “(iii) a Tribal College or University
9 (as defined in section 316(b) of the Higher
10 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
11 1059c(b)));
- 12 “(iv) an Alaska Native-serving institu-
13 tion or a Native Hawaiian-serving institu-
14 tion (as those terms are defined in section
15 317(b) of the Higher Education Act of
16 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059d(b))); or
- 17 “(v) a Federal or State agency;
- 18 “(J) paying for shipping of purchased
19 items relating to increasing food security;
- 20 “(K) creating or expanding avenues for—
21 “(i) the sale of food commodities, spe-
22 cialty crops, and meats that are grown by
23 the eligible entity for sale in the local com-
24 munity; or

1 “(ii) the availability of fresh, locally
2 grown, and nutritious food; and

3 “(L) engaging in other activities relating
4 to increasing food security (including subsist-
5 ence), as determined by the Secretary.

6 “(5) ELIGIBILITY FOR OTHER FINANCIAL AS-
7 SISTANCE.—An eligible entity shall not be ineligible
8 to receive financial assistance under another pro-
9 gram administered by the Secretary as a result of
10 receiving a subgrant under this section.

11 “(f) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—

12 “(1) SUBGRANT RECIPIENTS.—As a condition
13 of receiving a subgrant under this section, an eligible
14 entity shall submit to the eligible State in which the
15 eligible entity is located a report—

16 “(A) as soon as practicable after the end
17 of the project; and

18 “(B) that describes the quantity of food
19 grown and the number of people fed as a result
20 of the subgrant.

21 “(2) REPORT TO THE SECRETARY.—Not later
22 than 120 days after the date on which an eligible
23 State receives a report from each eligible entity in
24 that State under paragraph (1), the eligible State
25 shall submit to the Secretary a report that describes,

1 in the aggregate, the information and data contained
2 in the reports received from those eligible entities. .

3 “(g) FUNDING.—

4 “(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

5 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2019 and each fiscal year thereafter, to remain available until expended.

9 “(2) APPROPRIATIONS IN ADVANCE.—Only
10 funds appropriated under paragraph (1) in advance
11 specifically to carry out this section shall be available to carry out this section.

13 “(h) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section takes effect on
14 the date of enactment of the Agriculture Improvement Act
15 of 2018.”.