

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 7999

To amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to provide additional reimbursement to schools with a breakfast after the bell program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 19, 2026

Mr. BERA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to provide additional reimbursement to schools with a breakfast after the bell program, 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 “Breakfast After the
5 Bell Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCREASED REIMBURSEMENT FOR BREAKFAST**
2 **AFTER THE BELL.**

3 Section 11(a) of the Richard B. Russell National
4 School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1759a(a)) is amended by
5 adding at the end the following:

6 “(4) BREAKFAST AFTER THE BELL REIM-
7 BURSEMENT.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A State educational
9 agency shall receive an additional reimburse-
10 ment of 10 cents for each reimbursable break-
11 fast served—

12 “(i) after the beginning of a school
13 day;

14 “(ii) through a breakfast after the bell
15 program; and

16 “(iii) during a school year by a school
17 that—

18 “(I) is served by a local edu-
19 cational agency that elects to receive
20 special assistance payments under
21 paragraph (1)(F)(ii) for such school
22 for such year; or

23 “(II) had a percentage of en-
24 rolled students who were identified
25 students that was not less than 40
26 percent during the prior school year.

1 “(B) DISBURSE FUNDS TO SCHOOL.—A
2 State educational agency that receives an addi-
3 tional reimbursement for a breakfast under
4 subparagraph (A) shall disburse such additional
5 reimbursement to the school that served such
6 breakfast.

7 “(C) BREAKFAST AFTER THE BELL PRO-
8 GRAM.—In this paragraph, the term ‘breakfast
9 after the bell program’ means a school break-
10 fast program that—

11 “(i) serves breakfast to students after
12 the start of the school day; and

13 “(ii) uses a service model, including
14 service of breakfast in the classroom or at
15 a kiosk outside the cafeteria of the school,
16 that the State educational agency deter-
17 mines increases participation in the break-
18 fast program.”.

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