

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9304

To require that juice be the default benefit under certain WIC food packages.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 11, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. SOTO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

A BILL

To require that juice be the default benefit under certain
WIC food packages.

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 “Juice Access Improve-
5 ment Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. JUICE AS DEFAULT BENEFIT UNDER CERTAIN WIC**
7 **FOOD PACKAGES.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the special supple-
9 mental nutrition program for women, infants, and children
10 under section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42

1 U.S.C. 1786), the Secretary shall, with respect to a cov-
2 ered Food Package, require State agencies to—

3 (1) establish juice as the default benefit; and

4 (2) authorize that a \$3 cash-value voucher sub-
5 stitution for juice (to be adjusted annually for infla-
6 tion consistent with the annual inflation adjustments
7 made to cash-value voucher values for women and
8 children) be available upon request by a participant
9 in such program.

10 (b) REVISION OF RULES.—The Secretary shall issue
11 or revise such rules as are necessary to carry out this sec-
12 tion, including revision of paragraph (e)(10) of section
13 246.10 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations and table
14 2 relating to such paragraph (as in effect on the date of
15 the enactment of this section).

16 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17 (1) CASH-VALUE VOUCHER.—The term “cash-
18 value voucher” has the meaning given the term in
19 section 246.2 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations
20 (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this
21 section).

22 (2) COVERED FOOD PACKAGE.—The term “cov-
23 ered Food Package” means the following food pack-
24 ages under section 246.10(e) of title 7, Code of Fed-

1 eral Regulations (as in effect on the date of the en-
2 actment of this section):

3 (A) Food Package IV—Children 1 through
4 4 years.

5 (B) Food Package V—Pregnant and par-
6 tially (mostly) breastfeeding women.

7 (C) Food Package VI—Postpartum
8 women.

9 (D) Food Package VII—Fully
10 breastfeeding.

11 (3) JUICE.—The term “juice” means juice
12 meeting the minimum requirements and specifica-
13 tions for supplemental foods under table 4 to para-
14 graph (e)(12) of section 246.10 of title 7, Code of
15 Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of the
16 enactment of this section).

17 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
18 the Secretary of Agriculture.

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