

HR 4833

Food Deserts Act of 2016

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Mar 22, 2016

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition. (Mar 31, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/4833>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]

Party: Democratic • **State:** IN • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (24 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Mar 22, 2016
Del. Plaskett, Stacey E. [D-VI-At Large]	D · VI		Mar 22, 2016
Rep. Clay, Wm. Lacy [D-MO-1]	D · MO		Mar 22, 2016
Rep. Clyburn, James E. [D-SC-6]	D · SC		Mar 22, 2016
Rep. Cummings, Elijah E. [D-MD-7]	D · MD		Mar 22, 2016
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		Mar 22, 2016
Rep. Payne, Donald M., Jr. [D-NJ-10]	D · NJ		Mar 22, 2016
Rep. Wilson, Frederica S. [D-FL-24]	D · FL		Mar 22, 2016
Rep. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Apr 15, 2016
Rep. Honda, Michael M. [D-CA-17]	D · CA		May 10, 2016
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		May 10, 2016
Rep. Kirkpatrick, Ann [D-AZ-1]	D · AZ		May 10, 2016
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		May 10, 2016
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]	D · CA		May 10, 2016
Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11]	D · CA		May 18, 2016
Rep. Jeffries, Hakeem S. [D-NY-8]	D · NY		May 18, 2016
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. Beatty, Joyce [D-OH-3]	D · OH		Sep 28, 2016
Rep. Norcross, Donald [D-NJ-1]	D · NJ		Sep 28, 2016
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Nov 14, 2016
Rep. Delaney, John K. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Nov 14, 2016
Rep. Ellison, Keith [D-MN-5]	D · MN		Nov 14, 2016
Rep. Green, Al [D-TX-9]	D · TX		Dec 7, 2016
Rep. Gutierrez, Luis V. [D-IL-4]	D · IL		Dec 7, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 31, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Mar 22, 2016)

Food Deserts Act of 2016

This bill establishes a Department of Agriculture program to provide grants to states for revolving funds to support the establishment and operation of grocery stores in underserved communities.

An underserved community is a community that has: (1) limited access to affordable, healthy foods, including fresh fruits and vegetables, in grocery retail stores or farmer-to-consumer direct markets; and (2) a high rate of hunger or food insecurity or a high poverty rate.

States must use the funds to make loans to support grocery stores in underserved communities, including for:

- opening a store (excluding new construction),
- supporting an existing store,
- purchasing an existing store, or
- supporting a store located in a community that would be underserved without the store.

States may only make loans for qualified grocery stores that:

- emphasize unprocessed, healthful foods;
- provide staple foods and a variety of raw fruits and vegetables;
- have a plan to keep the foods in stock; and
- charge prices at or below municipal averages.

States must prioritize loan applications from entities that meet criteria, including:

- hiring workers from the underserved community,
- providing classes or educational information about a healthful diet,
- sourcing food from local urban farms and gardens,
- not selling alcohol or tobacco products, or
- demonstrating existing supply chain relationships or expertise in the grocery industry.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 31, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition.
- **Mar 22, 2016:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 22, 2016:** Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.