

S 1530

Universal School Meals Program Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: May 10, 2021

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. (May 10, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/1530>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]

Party: Independent • **State:** VT • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (16 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		May 10, 2021
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		May 10, 2021
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		May 10, 2021
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		May 10, 2021
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		May 10, 2021
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		May 10, 2021
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		May 10, 2021
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		May 10, 2021
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		May 10, 2021
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		May 10, 2021
Sen. Warnock, Raphael G. [D-GA]	D · GA		May 19, 2021
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jun 22, 2021
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Sep 20, 2021
Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]	D · NM		Nov 16, 2021
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Apr 6, 2022
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jun 14, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 10, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 7585	Related bill	Jun 29, 2022: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
117 S 4486	Related bill	Jun 23, 2022: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
117 HR 3115	Identical bill	Jul 22, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Oversight, and Department Operations.

Summary (as of May 10, 2021)

Universal School Meals Program Act of 2021

This bill revises requirements under the food and nutrition programs of the Department of Agriculture, such as the school lunch and breakfast programs.

For example, the bill permanently provides free meals to all school children regardless of income.

The bill increases the reimbursement rate for school food authorities participating in the food and nutrition programs.

The bill also prohibits school food authorities from (1) physically segregating or otherwise discriminating against any child participating in the free breakfast program, or (2) overtly identifying a child participating in the program with a special token or announcement.

Additionally, the bill expands the summer food service program by making all children eligible for participation in the program.

Further, the bill revises eligibility determinations for measuring poverty to include runaway or homeless youth, foster children, migratory children, and children participating in specified programs (e.g., Head Start).

Actions Timeline

- **May 10, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 10, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.