

HR 1230

Food Deserts Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Feb 28, 2023

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture. (Mar 22, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1230>

Sponsor

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

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

Cosponsors (78 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44]	D · CA		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Beatty, Joyce [D-OH-3]	D · OH		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Blunt Rochester, Lisa [D-DE-At Large]	D · DE		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Carter, Troy [D-LA-2]	D · LA		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Cherfilus-McCormick, Sheila [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Clarke, Yvette D. [D-NY-9]	D · NY		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Cleaver, Emanuel [D-MO-5]	D · MO		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Cuellar, Henry [D-TX-28]	D · TX		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7]	D · IL		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-10]	D · CA		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Doggett, Lloyd [D-TX-37]	D · TX		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Gallego, Ruben [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Garamendi, John [D-CA-8]	D · CA		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Green, Al [D-TX-9]	D · TX		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4]	D · GA		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Kaptur, Marcy [D-OH-9]	D · OH		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Khanna, Ro [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Larson, John B. [D-CT-1]	D · CT		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-12]	D · CA		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6]	D · MA		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Payne, Donald M., Jr. [D-NJ-10]	D · NJ		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Ross, Deborah K. [D-NC-2]	D · NC		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Scholten, Hillary J. [D-MI-3]	D · MI		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9]	D · FL		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Stansbury, Melanie Ann [D-NM-1]	D · NM		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-39]	D · CA		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Thompson, Bennie G. [D-MS-2]	D · MS		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Titus, Dina [D-NV-1]	D · NV		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Tokuda, Jill N. [D-HI-2]	D · HI		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Tonko, Paul [D-NY-20]	D · NY		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Vargas, Juan [D-CA-52]	D · CA		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Feb 28, 2023
Rep. Garcia, Sylvia R. [D-TX-29]	D · TX		Mar 7, 2023
Rep. Landsman, Greg [D-OH-1]	D · OH		Mar 7, 2023
Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-12]	D · NY		Mar 7, 2023
Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7]	D · AL		Mar 7, 2023
Rep. Adams, Alma S. [D-NC-12]	D · NC		Mar 21, 2023
Rep. Crockett, Jasmine [D-TX-30]	D · TX		Mar 21, 2023
Rep. Nickel, Wiley [D-NC-13]	D · NC		Mar 21, 2023

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Frost, Maxwell [D-FL-10]	D · FL		Mar 27, 2023
Rep. Budzinski, Nikki [D-IL-13]	D · IL		Mar 29, 2023
Rep. Cárdenas, Tony [D-CA-29]	D · CA		Apr 3, 2023
Rep. Escobar, Veronica [D-TX-16]	D · TX		Apr 13, 2023
Rep. Torres, Ritchie [D-NY-15]	D · NY		Apr 13, 2023
Rep. Velazquez, Nydia M. [D-NY-7]	D · NY		Apr 18, 2023
Rep. Gottheimer, Josh [D-NJ-5]	D · NJ		May 10, 2023
Rep. Kim, Andy [D-NJ-3]	D · NJ		May 10, 2023
Rep. Ramirez, Delia C. [D-IL-3]	D · IL		May 10, 2023
Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9]	D · MA		May 15, 2023
Rep. Pettersen, Brittany [D-CO-7]	D · CO		May 23, 2023
Rep. Ruppersberger, C. A. Dutch [D-MD-2]	D · MD		May 24, 2023
Rep. Goldman, Daniel S. [D-NY-10]	D · NY		Jun 12, 2023
Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-8]	D · MA		Jun 12, 2023
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Jul 6, 2023
Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6]	D · NY		Jul 6, 2023
Rep. Jackson, Jonathan L. [D-IL-1]	D · IL		Jul 12, 2023
Rep. Larsen, Rick [D-WA-2]	D · WA		Jul 12, 2023
Rep. McGarvey, Morgan [D-KY-3]	D · KY		Jul 13, 2023
Rep. Bowman, Jamaal [D-NY-16]	D · NY		Aug 22, 2023
Rep. Mrvan, Frank J. [D-IN-1]	D · IN		Aug 22, 2023
Rep. Horsford, Steven [D-NV-4]	D · NV		Sep 18, 2023
Rep. Stevens, Haley M. [D-MI-11]	D · MI		Jan 5, 2024
Rep. Sánchez, Linda T. [D-CA-38]	D · CA		Jan 9, 2024
Rep. Casten, Sean [D-IL-6]	D · IL		Jan 16, 2024
Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Jan 25, 2024
Rep. Thanedar, Shri [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Jan 29, 2024
Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11]	D · VA		Mar 12, 2024
Rep. Krishnamoorthi, Raja [D-IL-8]	D · IL		Mar 20, 2024
Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-12]	D · MI		Apr 15, 2024
Rep. Dingell, Debbie [D-MI-6]	D · MI		Jun 27, 2024
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		Jun 27, 2024
Rep. Mfume, Kweisi [D-MD-7]	D · MD		Jul 22, 2024
Rep. Mullin, Kevin [D-CA-15]	D · CA		Aug 30, 2024
Rep. García, Jesús G. "Chuy" [D-IL-4]	D · IL		Nov 18, 2024
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Nov 20, 2024
Rep. McIver, LaMonica [D-NJ-10]	D · NJ		Nov 20, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 22, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Feb 28, 2023)

Food Deserts Act

This bill establishes a grant program within the Department of Agriculture to reduce food deserts. Under the program, grants are provided to states for revolving funds that support the establishment and operation of grocery stores in underserved communities. *Underserved communities* are communities that have (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, a high rate of food insecurity, or a high poverty rate.

The bill requires states to use such funds for loans that support grocery stores in underserved communities, including for opening a store (excluding new construction), or supporting an existing store.

In order to qualify for loans, grocery stores must meet criteria enumerated in the bill. For example, grocery stores must (1) emphasize unprocessed, healthful foods; (2) provide staple foods and a variety of raw fruits and vegetables; and (3) charge affordable prices at or below market values.

Further, states must prioritize loan applications from entities that meet criteria related to

- hiring workers from the underserved community,
- providing classes or educational information about a healthful diet,
- sourcing food from local urban farms and gardens, and
- demonstrating existing supply chain relationships in the grocery industry.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 22, 2023:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture.
- **Feb 28, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 28, 2023:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E163-164)
- **Feb 28, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.