

S 2713

Farmers Feeding America Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Jul 27, 2023

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. (Jul 27, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/2713>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]

Party: Democratic • **State:** PA • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (10 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Fetterman, John [D-PA]	D · PA		Sep 7, 2023
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Sep 12, 2023
Sen. Welch, Peter [D-VT]	D · VT		Sep 18, 2023
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Sep 21, 2023
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Sep 30, 2023
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Oct 24, 2023
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Nov 1, 2023
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		Nov 27, 2023
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Jan 30, 2024
Sen. Warnock, Raphael G. [D-GA]	D · GA		Mar 22, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 28, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 6203	Identical bill	Mar 1, 2024: Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture.
118 S 2418	Related bill	Jul 20, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Farmers Feeding America Act of 2023

This bill reauthorizes The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), increases funding for the program, and provides additional delivery options for geographically isolated states (i.e., Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam).

TEFAP is a federal program that helps supplement the diets of people with low income by providing them with emergency food assistance at no cost. Through TEFAP, the Department of Agriculture (USDA) purchases a variety of commodities and makes those food products (e.g., canned, frozen, dried, and fresh fruits and vegetables, eggs, meat, dairy, and whole-grain and enriched grain products) available to state distributing agencies.

The bill increases funding for purchasing commodities under the program.

Further, the bill directs USDA to coordinate with geographically isolated states to (1) establish alternative delivery options for allocated commodities, and (2) allow for the states to order commodities through the USDA Department of Defense Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program.

USDA may also provide geographically isolated states the ability to directly purchase domestically grown food in lieu of receiving a portion of the commodities. Under this option, USDA may distribute as cash to the state up to 20% of the cash value of the commodities that are allocated to the state under TEFAP.

Further, USDA may consider additional factors beyond lowest price in determining winning bids for contracts for fresh produce packages (including product variety and transportation distance).

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 27, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 27, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.