

AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 113-14, H.R. 1947
FEDERAL AGRICULTURE REFORM AND RISK
MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2013
OFFERED BY MR. SOUTHERLAND OF FLORIDA

Page 336, line 8, strike “\$375,000,000” and insert
“\$372,000,000”.

At the end of subtitle A of title IV, insert the fol-
lowing:

1 **SEC. 4033. PILOT PROJECTS TO PROMOTE WORK AND IN-**
2 **CREASE STATE ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE**
3 **SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE**
4 **PROGRAM.**

5 Effective October 1, 2013, section 17 of the Food and
6 Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2026), as amended by
7 sections 4021 and 4022, is amended by adding at the end
8 the following:

9 “(n) PILOT PROJECTS TO PROMOTE WORK AND IN-
10 CREASE STATE ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE SUPPLEMENTAL
11 NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry
13 out pilot projects to develop and test methods allow-

1 ing States to run a work program with certain fea-
2 tures comparable to the State program funded under
3 part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42
4 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), with the intent of increasing
5 employment and self-sufficiency through increased
6 State accountability and thereby reducing the need
7 for supplemental nutrition assistance benefits.

8 “(2) AGREEMENTS.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out this
10 subsection, the Secretary shall enter into coop-
11 erative agreements with States in accordance
12 with pilot projects that meet the criteria re-
13 quired under this subsection.

14 “(B) APPLICATION.—To be eligible for a
15 cooperative agreement under this paragraph, a
16 State shall submit to the Secretary a plan that
17 complies with requirements of this subsection
18 beginning in fiscal year 2014. The Secretary
19 may not disapprove applications which meet the
20 requirements of this subsection as described
21 through its amended supplemental nutrition as-
22 sistance State Plan.

23 “(C) ASSURANCES.—A State shall include
24 in its plan assurances that its pilot project
25 will—

1 “(i) operate for at least three 12-
2 month periods but not more than five 12-
3 month periods;

4 “(ii) have a robust data collection sys-
5 tem for program administration that is de-
6 signed and shared with project evaluators
7 to ensure proper and timely evaluation;
8 and

9 “(iii) intend to offer a work activity
10 described in paragraph (4) to adults as-
11 signed and required to participate under
12 paragraph (3)(A) and who are not exempt
13 under paragraph (3)(F).

14 “(D) NUMBER OF PILOT PROJECTS.—Any
15 State may carry out a pilot project that meets
16 the requirements of this subsection.

17 “(E) EXTENT OF PILOT PROJECTS.—Pilot
18 projects shall cover no less than the entire
19 State.

20 “(F) OTHER PROGRAM WAIVERS.—Waivers
21 for able-bodied adults without dependents pro-
22 vided under section 6(o) are void for States cov-
23 ered by a pilot project carried out under para-
24 graph (1).

1 “(3) WORK ACTIVITY.—(A) For purposes of
2 this subsection, the term ‘work activity’ means any
3 of the following:

4 “(i) Employment in the public or private
5 sector that is not subsidized by any public pro-
6 gram.

7 “(ii) Employment in the private sector for
8 which the employer receives a subsidy from
9 public funds to offset some or all of the wages
10 and costs of employing an adult.

11 “(iii) Employment in the public sector for
12 which the employer receives a subsidy from
13 public funds to offset some or all of the wages
14 and costs of employing an adult.

15 “(iv) A work activity that—

16 “(I) is performed in return for public
17 benefits;

18 “(II) provides an adult with an oppor-
19 tunity to acquire the general skills, knowl-
20 edge, and work habits necessary to obtain
21 employment;

22 “(III) is designed to improve the em-
23 ployability of those who cannot find unsub-
24 sidized employment; and

1 “(IV) is supervised by an employer,
2 work site sponsor, or other responsible
3 party on an ongoing basis.

4 “(v) Training in the public or private sec-
5 tor that is given to a paid employee while he or
6 she is engaged in productive work and that pro-
7 vides knowledge and skills essential to the full
8 and adequate performance of the job.

9 “(vi) Job search, obtaining employment, or
10 preparation to seek or obtain employment, in-
11 cluding—

12 “(I) life skills training;

13 “(II) substance abuse treatment or
14 mental health treatment, determined to be
15 necessary and documented by a qualified
16 medical, substance abuse, or mental health
17 professional; or

18 “(III) rehabilitation activities;
19 supervised by a public agency or other re-
20 sponsible party on an ongoing basis.

21 “(vii) Structured programs and embedded
22 activities—

23 “(I) in which adults perform work for
24 the direct benefit of the community under

1 the auspices of public or nonprofit organi-
2 zations;

3 “(II) that are limited to projects that
4 serve useful community purposes in fields
5 such as health, social service, environ-
6 mental protection, education, urban and
7 rural redevelopment, welfare, recreation,
8 public facilities, public safety, and child
9 care;

10 “(III) that are designed to improve
11 the employability of adults not otherwise
12 able to obtain unsubsidized employment;
13 and

14 “(IV) that are supervised on an ongo-
15 ing basis; and

16 “(V) with respect to which a State
17 agency takes into account, to the extent
18 possible, the prior training, experience, and
19 skills of a recipient in making appropriate
20 community service assignments.

21 “(viii) Career and technical training pro-
22 grams (not to exceed 12 months with respect to
23 any adult) that are directly related to the prep-
24 aration of adults for employment in current or

1 emerging occupations and that are supervised
2 on an ongoing basis.

3 “(ix) Training or education for job skills
4 that are required by an employer to provide an
5 adult with the ability to obtain employment or
6 to advance or adapt to the changing demands
7 of the workplace and that are supervised on an
8 ongoing basis.

9 “(x) Education that is related to a specific
10 occupation, job, or job offer and that is super-
11 vised on an ongoing basis.

12 “(xi) In the case of an adult who has not
13 completed secondary school or received such a
14 certificate of general equivalence, regular at-
15 tendance—

16 “(I) in accordance with the require-
17 ments of the secondary school or course of
18 study, at a secondary school or in a course
19 of study leading to such certificate; and

20 “(II) supervised on an ongoing basis.

21 “(xii) Providing child care to enable an-
22 other recipient of public benefits to participate
23 in a community service program that—

24 “(I) does not provide compensation
25 for such community service;

1 “(II) is a structured program de-
2 signed to improve the employability of
3 adults who participate in such program;
4 and

5 “(III) is supervised on an ongoing
6 basis.

7 “(B) PROTECTIONS.—Work activities under
8 this subsection shall be subject to all applicable
9 health and safety standards. Except as described in
10 clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) of subparagraph (A), the
11 term ‘work activity’ shall be considered work prepa-
12 ration and not defined as employment for purposes
13 of other law.

14 “(4) PILOT PROJECTS.—Pilot projects carried
15 out under paragraph (1) shall include interventions
16 to which adults are assigned that are designed to re-
17 duce unnecessary dependence, promote self suffi-
18 ciency, increase work levels, increase earned income,
19 and reduce supplemental nutrition assistance benefit
20 expenditures among households eligible for, applying
21 for, or participating in the supplemental nutrition
22 assistance program.

23 “(A) Adults assigned to interventions by
24 the State shall—

1 “(i) be subject to mandatory partici-
2 pation in work activities specified in para-
3 graph (4), except those with 1 or more de-
4 pendent children under 1 year of age;

5 “(ii) participate in work activities
6 specified in paragraph (4) for a minimum
7 of 20 hours per week per household;

8 “(iii) be a maximum age of not less
9 than 50 and not more than 60, as defined
10 by the State;

11 “(iv) be subject to penalties during a
12 period of nonparticipation without good
13 cause ranging from, at State option, a
14 minimum of the removal of the adults from
15 the household benefit amount, up to a
16 maximum of the discontinuance of the en-
17 tire household benefit amount; and

18 “(v) not be penalized for nonparticipa-
19 tion if child care is not available for 1 or
20 more children under 6 years of age.

21 “(B) The State shall allow certain individ-
22 uals to be exempt from work requirements—

23 “(i) those participating in work pro-
24 grams under a State program funded
25 under part A of title IV of the Social Secu-

1 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) for an
2 equal or greater number of hours;

3 “(ii) 1 adult family member per
4 household who is needed in the home to
5 care for a disabled family member;

6 “(iii) a parent who is a recipient of or
7 becomes eligible for Social Security Dis-
8 ability Insurance (SSDI) or Supplemental
9 Security Income (SSI); and

10 “(iv) those with a good cause reason
11 for nonparticipation, such as victims of do-
12 mestic violence, as defined by the State.

13 “(5) EVALUATION AND REPORTING.—

14 “(A) EVALUATION.—

15 “(i) INDEPENDENT EVALUATION.—

16 “(I) IN GENERAL.—The Sec-
17 retary shall provide for each State
18 that enters into an agreement under
19 paragraph (2) an independent, longi-
20 tudinal evaluation of its pilot project
21 under this subsection to determine
22 total program savings over the entire
23 course of the pilot project with results
24 reported in consecutive 12-month in-
25 crements.

1 “(II) PURPOSE.—The purpose of
2 the evaluation is to measure the im-
3 pact of interventions provided by the
4 State under the pilot project on the
5 ability of adults in households eligible
6 for, applying for, or participating in
7 the supplemental nutrition assistance
8 program to find and retain employ-
9 ment that leads to increased house-
10 hold income and reduced dependency.

11 “(III) REQUIREMENT.—The
12 independent evaluation under sub-
13 clause (I) shall use valid statistical
14 methods which can determine the dif-
15 ference between supplemental nutri-
16 tion assistance benefit expenditures, if
17 any, as a result of the interventions as
18 compared to a control group that—

19 “(aa) is not subject to the
20 interventions provided by the
21 State under the pilot project
22 under this subsection; and

23 “(bb) maintains services
24 provided under 16(h) in the year

1 prior to the start of the pilot
2 project under this subsection.

3 “(IV) OPTION.—States shall
4 have the option to evaluate pilot
5 projects by matched counties or
6 matched geographical areas using a
7 constructed control group design to
8 isolate the effects of the intervention
9 of the pilot project.

10 “(V) DEFINITION.—Constructed
11 control group means there is no ran-
12 dom assignment, and instead program
13 participants (those subject to inter-
14 ventions) and non-participants (con-
15 trol) are equated using matching or
16 statistical procedures on characteris-
17 ties that may be associated with pro-
18 gram outcomes.

19 “(B) REPORTING.—Not later than 90 days
20 after the end of fiscal year 2014 and of each
21 fiscal year thereafter, until the completion of
22 the last evaluation under subparagraph (A), the
23 Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Ag-
24 riculture of the House of Representatives and
25 the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and

1 Forestry of the Senate, a report that includes
2 a description of—

3 “(i) the status of each pilot project
4 carried out under paragraph (1);

5 “(ii) the results of the evaluation com-
6 pleted during the previous fiscal year; and

7 “(iii) to the maximum extent prac-
8 ticable—

9 “(I) baseline information relevant
10 to the stated goals and desired out-
11 comes of the pilot project;

12 “(II) the impact of the interven-
13 tions on appropriate employment, in-
14 come, and public benefit receipt out-
15 comes among households participating
16 in the pilot project;

17 “(III) equivalent information
18 about similar or identical measures
19 among control or comparison groups;

20 “(IV) the planned dissemination
21 of the report findings to State agen-
22 cies; and

23 “(V) the steps and funding nec-
24 essary to incorporate into State em-
25 ployment and training programs the

1 components of pilot projects that dem-
2 onstrate increased employment and
3 earnings.

4 “(C) PUBLIC DISSEMINATION.—In addi-
5 tion to the reporting requirements under sub-
6 paragraph (B), evaluation results shall be
7 shared broadly to inform policy makers, service
8 providers, other partners, and the public in
9 order to promote wide use of successful strate-
10 gies, including by posting evaluation results on
11 the Internet website of the Department of Agri-
12 culture.

13 “(6) FUNDING.—

14 “(A) AVAILABLE FUNDS.—From amounts
15 made available under section 18(a)(1), the Sec-
16 retary shall make available—

17 “(i) up to \$1,000,000 for each of the
18 fiscal years 2014 through 2017 for evalua-
19 tions described in paragraph (5) to carry
20 out this subsection, with such amounts to
21 remain available until expended; and

22 “(ii) amounts equal to one-half of the
23 accumulated supplemental nutrition assist-
24 ance benefit dollars saved over each con-
25 secutive 12-month period according to the

1 evaluation under paragraph (5) for bonus
2 grants to States under paragraph (7)(B).

3 “(B) LIMITATION.—A State operating a
4 pilot project under this subsection shall not re-
5 ceive more funding under section 16(h) than
6 the State received the year prior to commencing
7 a project under this subsection and shall not
8 claim funds under 16(a) for expenses that are
9 unique to the pilot project under this sub-
10 section.

11 “(C) OTHER FUNDS.—Any additional
12 funds required by a State to carry out a pilot
13 project under this subsection may be provided
14 by the State from funds made available to the
15 State for such purpose and in accordance with
16 State and other Federal laws, including the fol-
17 lowing:

18 “(i) Section 403 of the Social Security
19 Act (42 U.S.C. 603).

20 “(ii) The Workforce Investment Act
21 of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 9201 et seq.).

22 “(iii) The Child Care and Develop-
23 ment Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
24 9858 et seq.) and section 418 of the Social
25 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 618).

1 “(iv) The social services block grant
2 under subtitle A of title XX of the Social
3 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397 et seq.).

4 “(7) USE OF FUNDS.—

5 “(A) SPECIFIC USES.—Funds provided
6 under this subsection for evaluation of pilot
7 projects shall be used only for—

8 “(i) pilot projects that comply with
9 this subsection;

10 “(ii) the costs incurred in gathering
11 and providing information and data used
12 to conduct the independent evaluation
13 under paragraph (5); and

14 “(iii) the costs of the evaluation under
15 paragraph (5).

16 “(B) LIMITATION.—Funds provided for
17 bonus grants to States for pilot projects under
18 this subsection shall be used only for—

19 “(i) pilot projects that comply with
20 this subsection;

21 “(ii) amounts equal to one-half of the
22 accumulated supplemental nutrition assist-
23 ance benefit dollars saved over each con-
24 secutive 12-month period according to the
25 evaluation under paragraph (5); and

1 “(iii) any State purpose, not to be re-
2 stricted to the supplemental nutrition as-
3 sistance program or its beneficiary popu-
4 lation.”.

5 **SEC. 4034. IMPROVED WAGE VERIFICATION USING THE NA-**
6 **TIONAL DIRECTORY OF NEW HIRES.**

7 Effective October 1, 2013, section 11(e) of the Food
8 and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2020(e)) is amend-
9 ed—

10 (1) in paragraph (3) by inserting “and after
11 compliance with the requirement specified in para-
12 graph (24)” after “section 16(e) of this Act”,

13 (2) in paragraph (22) by striking “and” at the
14 end,

15 (3) in paragraph (23) by striking the period at
16 the end and inserting “; and”, and

17 (4) by adding at the end the following:

18 “(24) that the State agency shall request wage
19 data directly from the National Directory of New
20 Hires established under section 453(i) of the Social
21 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 653(i)) relevant to deter-
22 mining eligibility to receive supplemental nutrition
23 assistance program benefits and determining the
24 correct amount of such benefits.”.

