

AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 119-22
OFFERED BY MRS. SYKES OF OHIO

At the end of subtitle D of title XII, add the following new section:

1 **SEC. 124 ____ . GRANTS FOR HEALTHY FOOD PHARMACIES.**

2 (a) FINDING.—Congress finds that the goal of
3 healthy food pharmacies (also known as “food pharmacies”)
4 is to improve the health outcomes of their patrons by ex-
5 panding access to nutritious foods and providing nutri-
6 tional guidance.

7 (b) IN GENERAL.—Part B of title III of the Public
8 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 243 et seq.) is amended
9 by adding at the end the following:

10 **“SEC. 320C. GRANTS FOR HEALTHY FOOD PHARMACIES.**

11 “(a) AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS.—The Sec-
12 retary, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture,
13 may make grants to eligible entities to assist in the estab-
14 lishment and operation of healthy food pharmacies.

15 “(b) USE OF GRANTS.—A grant received by an eligi-
16 ble entity under this section shall be used for costs related
17 to—

1 “(1) construction, conversion, or renovation of a
2 healthy food pharmacy;

3 “(2) the acquisition of equipment for a healthy
4 food pharmacy, including for a mobile food phar-
5 macy;

6 “(3) staffing to operate a healthy food phar-
7 macy and help connect patients to other programs
8 that support health outcomes and combat food inse-
9 curity; and

10 “(4) the acquisition of food and materials nec-
11 essary for food distribution by a healthy food phar-
12 macy.

13 “(c) ELIGIBILITY.—

14 “(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—The following enti-
15 ties shall be eligible to receive a grant under this
16 section:

17 “(A) A non-profit qualified health care
18 provider.

19 “(B) A State or local government entity.

20 “(C) A Tribal organization.

21 “(2) ELIGIBLE HEALTHY FOOD PHARMACIES.—
22 The Secretary may make a grant under this section
23 with respect to a healthy food pharmacy if the
24 healthy food pharmacy—

1 “(A) offers a range of services to its pa-
2 trons, including access to healthy foods and nu-
3 tritional guidance from a qualified health care
4 professional;

5 “(B) is operated in a manner that
6 prioritizes the provision of services to commu-
7 nities that are low income, rural, or facing food
8 insecurity (as such terms may be defined by the
9 Secretary);

10 “(C) provides food and nutritional guid-
11 ance free of charge to individuals receiving ben-
12 efits under Medicaid or the Supplemental Nu-
13 trition Assistance Program; and

14 “(D) is operated in a manner that sup-
15 ports the ‘Food is Medicine’ initiative of the
16 Department of Health and Human Services.

17 “(d) APPLICATION.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To receive a grant under
19 this section, an eligible entity shall submit to the
20 Secretary an application at such time, in such man-
21 ner, and containing such information as the Sec-
22 retary may require.

23 “(2) PLAN FOR CONTINUATION OF GRANT AC-
24 TIVITIES.—As part of such an application, the Sec-
25 retary shall require an eligible entity to submit a

1 plan for continuing to carry out activities described
2 in subsection (b) after the eligible entity is no longer
3 receiving grant funds under this section, including a
4 plan to retain staff hired using the grant funds.

5 “(e) PARTNERSHIPS.—An eligible entity that receives
6 a grant under this section may carry out activities using
7 the amounts of the grant in partnership with other organi-
8 zations seeking to reduce food insecurity and improve
9 health outcomes.

10 “(f) LIMITATION ON GRANT AMOUNTS.—The Sec-
11 retary may not award to an eligible entity more than
12 \$500,000 in grants under this section for a fiscal year.

13 “(g) AUTHORITY TO WAIVE CERTAIN REQUIRE-
14 MENTS.—The Secretary may waive requirements of title
15 XI of the Social Security Act as may be necessary solely
16 for the purposes of carrying out a program under this sec-
17 tion.

18 “(h) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

19 “(1) REPORTS TO SECRETARY.—The Secretary
20 may make a grant to an eligible entity under this
21 section with respect to a healthy food pharmacy only
22 if the eligible entity agrees to submit to the Sec-
23 retary, on an annual basis for such period as the
24 Secretary may prescribe, a report on the effective-

1 ness of the activities funded with the amounts of the
2 grant, including a description of—

3 “(A) the number of patrons served by the
4 healthy food pharmacy;

5 “(B) the health needs of such patrons;

6 “(C) the repeated use of the healthy food
7 pharmacy by such patrons;

8 “(D) the reported health outcomes of such
9 patrons;

10 “(E) the types of food acquired by such
11 patrons from the healthy food pharmacy; and

12 “(F) the assistance provided by the healthy
13 food pharmacy to connect such patrons with
14 other programs that address food insecurity
15 and improve health outcomes.

16 “(2) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
17 2 years after the date of enactment of this section,
18 and biennially thereafter during the term of the
19 grant program under this section, the Secretary
20 shall submit to Congress a report that summarizes
21 the reports received by the Secretary under para-
22 graph (1).

23 “(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

24 “(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-
25 tity’ means an entity described in subsection (c)(1).

1 “(2) HEALTHY FOOD PHARMACY.—The term
2 ‘healthy food pharmacy’ means an organization that
3 provides to its patrons services that include—

4 “(A) access to nutritious foods that are
5 representative of foods for a healthy diet, based
6 on the Dietary Guidelines of the Department of
7 Agriculture and guidance from the Secretary;
8 and

9 “(B) nutritional guidance from a qualified
10 health care professional.

11 “(3) QUALIFIED HEALTH CARE PROFES-
12 SIONAL.—The term ‘qualified health care profes-
13 sional’ means—

14 “(A) a registered dietitian or nutrition pro-
15 fessional, as defined by section 1861(vv)(2) of
16 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
17 1395x(vv)(2));

18 “(B) a physician, as defined by section
19 1861(r) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
20 1395x(r)); and

21 “(C) a nurse practitioner, clinical nurse
22 specialist, physician assistant, or other profes-
23 sional, as determined appropriate by the Sec-
24 retary.

1 “(4) QUALIFIED HEALTH CARE PROVIDER.—

2 The term ‘qualified health care provider’ means—

3 “(A) a provider of services, as defined by
4 section 1861(u) of the Social Security Act (42
5 U.S.C. 1395x(u));

6 “(B) a physician organization, as defined
7 by section 411.351 of title 42, Code of Federal
8 Regulations (or successor regulations);

9 “(C) a rural health clinic, as defined by
10 section 1861(aa)(2) of the Social Security Act
11 (42 U.S.C. 1395x(aa)(2));

12 “(D) a Federally qualified health center, as
13 defined by section 1887(aa)(4) of the Social Se-
14 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(aa)(4)); or

15 “(E) another provider, as determined ap-
16 propriate by the Secretary.

17 “(5) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means
18 the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting
19 through the Assistant Secretary for Health.

20 “(j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
21 is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry
22 out this section \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2027
23 through 2031.”.

