

.....  
(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to expand benefits to households eligible for federal and state energy assistance programs, and for other purposes.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Ms. McDONALD RIVET introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to expand benefits to households eligible for federal and state energy assistance programs, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Affordable Food and  
5       Energy Act of 2025”.

6       **SEC. 2. HOUSEHOLD ASSISTANCE.**

7       Section 5 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7  
8       U.S.C. 2014) is amended—

1 (1) by amending subsection (e)(6)(IV)(I) to  
2 read as follows:

3 “(I). IN GENERAL.—Subject to subclause  
4 (II), if a State agency elects to use a standard  
5 utility allowance that reflects heating and cool-  
6 ing costs, the standard utility allowance shall be  
7 made available to households that received a  
8 payment, or on behalf of which a payment was  
9 made, under the Low-Income Home Energy As-  
10 sistance Act of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 8621 et seq.)  
11 or other similar energy assistance program, if  
12 in the current month or in the immediately pre-  
13 ceding 12 months, the household either received  
14 such a payment, or such a payment was made  
15 on behalf of the household, that was greater  
16 than \$20 annually, as determined by the Sec-  
17 retary.”, and

18 (2) by amending subsection (e)(6)(IV)(I) to  
19 read as follows:(k)(4) to read as follows:

20 “(4) THIRD PARTY ENERGY ASSISTANCE PAY-  
21 MENTS.—

22 “(A) ENERGY ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS.—  
23 For purposes of subsection (d)(1), a payment  
24 made under a State law (other than a law re-  
25 ferred to in paragraph (2)(G) to provide energy

1 assistance to a household shall be considered  
2 money payable directly to the household.

3 “(B) ENERGY ASSISTANCE EXPENSES.—

4 For purposes of subsection (e)(6), an expense  
5 paid on behalf of a household under a State law  
6 to provide energy assistance shall be considered  
7 an out-of-pocket expense incurred and paid by  
8 the household.”.

9 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

10 This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall  
11 take effect July 4, 2025.