

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

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To amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to permit video or telephone certifications under the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mr. MARSHALL (for himself and Mrs. GILLIBRAND) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

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**A BILL**

To amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to permit video or telephone certifications under the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children, 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 “21<sup>st</sup> Century WIC Act  
5       of 2026”.

**1 SEC. 2. REDEFINING PRESENCE AT CERTIFICATION.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 17(d)(3) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(d)(3)) is amended by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the following:

5                   “(C) PRESENCE FOR CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS AND EVALUATIONS.—

7                   “(i) IN GENERAL.—Each individual seeking certification, recertification, or a nutritional risk evaluation for participation in the program authorized under this section shall be provided an appointment that is, at the option of the individual, through any of the following formats:

14                   “(I) In person.

15                   “(II) By telephone.

16                   “(III) Through video technology that permits 2-way, real-time interactive communications.

19                   “(IV) Through other formats that permit 2-way, real-time interactive communications, as determined by the Secretary.

23                   “(ii) ADA COMPLIANCE.—Any format made available for an appointment under clause (i) shall be accessible to an individual in accordance with the Americans

1 with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.  
2 12101 et seq.) and section 504 of the Re-  
3 habilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794).



5 (b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Section 17(d)(3) of  
6 the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(d)(3))  
7 is amended by conforming the margin of subparagraph  
8 (B) to the margin of subparagraph (C).

## 9 SEC. 3. REMOTE BENEFIT ISSUANCE.

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 17(f)(6)(B) of the Child  
11 Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(f)(6)(B)) is  
12 amended—

13 (1) in the third sentence—

14 (A) by striking “vouchers by mail” and in-  
15 serting “food instruments by mail, remote  
16 issuance, or other means”; and

17 (B) by striking “The Secretary” and in-  
18 serting the following:

21 (2) in the second sentence—

22 (A) by striking “vouchers by mail in its  
23 plan” and inserting “food instruments by mail,  
24 remote issuance, or other means in the State  
25 plan”; and

1 (B) by striking “The State” and inserting  
2 the following:

7                           “(B)    DELIVERY    OF    FOOD    INSTRU-  
8                           MENTS.—

17 (b) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Agriculture  
18 shall revise section 246.12(r) of title 7, Code of Federal  
19 Regulations, by striking paragraph (4).

20 SEC. 4. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the  
22 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture  
23 shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition,  
24 and Forestry of the Senate and the Committee on Edu-  
25 cation and Labor of the House of Representatives a report

1 on the use of remote technologies under the special supple-  
2 mental nutrition program for women, infants, and children  
3 established by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of  
4 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786) (referred to in this section as the  
5 “program”).

6 (b) CONTENT OF REPORT.—The report submitted

7 under subsection (a) shall include a description of—

8 (1) the use of remote technologies and other  
9 digital tools, including video, telephone, and online  
10 platforms—

11 (A) to certify eligible individuals for pro-  
12 gram services; and

13 (B) to provide nutrition education and  
14 breastfeeding support to program participants;

15 (2) the impact of remote technologies, including  
16 video, telephone, and online platforms, on certifi-  
17 cations, appointments, and participant satisfaction  
18 under the program; and

19 (3) best practices—

20 (A) to certify program participants for pro-  
21 gram services using remote technologies;

22 (B) to incorporate the use of digital tools  
23 into the program certification process;

24 (C) to integrate nutrition education and  
25 breastfeeding support services for program par-

1                   ticipants into remote technologies and plat-  
2                   forms; and  
3                   (D) to securely manage program partici-  
4                   pant data.