

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 8467 OFFERED BY MS. CROCKETT OF TEXAS**

Allows grocery store cooperatives that accept or commit to accepting SNAP in rural areas to be eligible for Community Facility Loans and Loan Guarantees.

Includes limitations on cooperative eligibility.

Provides that USDA may award priority points in grant consideration to such projects as it may establish.

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. \_\_\_\_\_**

**OFFERED BY MS. CROCKETT OF TEXAS**

**Page and line numbers refer to draft of the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024 posted to Committee Repository website with a timestamp of May 21, 2024 (9:38 a.m.).**

Page 453, after line 6, add the following:

1 **SEC. \_\_\_\_ . ELIGIBILITY OF CERTAIN COOPERATIVE GRO-**  
2 **CERY STORES IN FOOD DESERTS FOR LOANS**  
3 **AND LOAN GUARANTEES UNDER THE COM-**  
4 **MUNITY FACILITIES DIRECT LOAN AND**  
5 **GRANT PROGRAM.**

6 Section 306(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural  
7 Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)) is amended by add-  
8 ing at the end the following:

9 “(27) ELIGIBILITY OF CERTAIN COOPERATIVE  
10 GROCERY STORES IN FOOD DESERTS FOR COMMU-  
11 NITY FACILITIES LOANS AND LOAN GUARANTEES.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may  
13 make or insure a loan under paragraph (1) or  
14 provide a loan guarantee under paragraph (24)  
15 for the construction or renovation of, or the  
16 purchase of equipment for, a grocery store  
17 owned by a cooperative organized under State  
18 law if—

1           “(i) the grocery store is or will be lo-  
2 cated in an area of the United States rec-  
3 ognized as a food desert by the Secretary;  
4 and

5           “(ii) the cooperative includes in an ap-  
6 plication for such a loan or loan guarantee  
7 a commitment to applying to accept and  
8 redeem benefits under the supplemental  
9 nutrition assistance program established  
10 under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008,  
11 at a time determined by the Secretary.

12           “(B) CONSIDERATION OF APPLICANTS.—A  
13 cooperative—

14           “(i) shall not be disqualified from re-  
15 ceiving a loan or loan guarantee under  
16 subparagraph (A) for a grocery store on  
17 the grounds that—

18           “(I) the grocery store carries or  
19 will carry over-the-counter medicines,  
20 tote bags, or school supplies; or

21           “(II) the cooperative owns a sep-  
22 arate facility that is not colocated  
23 with the grocery store; and

24           “(ii) shall be disqualified from receiv-  
25 ing a loan or loan guarantee under sub-

1 paragraph(A) for a grocery store if the pri-  
2 mary business of the grocery store is not  
3 or will not be selling food that may be pur-  
4 chased using benefits provided under the  
5 supplemental nutrition assistance program  
6 established under the Food and Nutrition  
7 Act of 2008.

8 “(C) PRIORITIZATION.—In addition to the  
9 number of points that would otherwise be  
10 awarded for a preapplication for a loan or loan  
11 guarantee under subparagraph (A), the Sec-  
12 retary may award such number of additional  
13 points as the Secretary determines appropriate.

14 “(D) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—  
15 The recipient of a loan or loan guarantee under  
16 subparagraph (A) shall not use the loan or loan  
17 guarantee for the benefit of—

18 “(i) a for-profit entity that owns a  
19 business that is not eligible for that loan or  
20 loan guarantee; or

21 “(ii) another facility owned by the re-  
22 cipient of the loan or loan guarantee that  
23 is not colocated with the grocery store that

1 is the subject of the loan or loan guar-  
2 antee.”.

