

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5136, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MR. MCGOVERN OF MASSACHU-
SETTS, MRS. EMERSON OF MISSOURI, AND
MR. BISHOP OF GEORGIA**

Add at the end of subtitle F of title X, the following:

1 **SEC. 1065. FINDINGS AND SENSE OF CONGRESS ON OBE-**
2 **SITY AND FEDERAL CHILD NUTRITION PRO-**
3 **GRAMS.**

4 (a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress find the following:

5 (1) According to the April 2010 report, “Too
6 Fat to Fight”, more than 100 retired generals and
7 admirals wrote that, “[o]besity among children and
8 young adults have increased so dramatically that
9 they threaten not only the overall health of America
10 but the future strength of our military.”

11 (2) Twenty-seven percent, over 9,000,000, 17-
12 24-year-olds in the United States are too fat to serve
13 in the military.

14 (3) Between 1995 and 2008, the military had
15 140,000 individuals who showed up at the centers
16 for processing but failed their entrance physicals be-
17 cause they were too heavy.

1 (4) Being overweight is now the leading medical
2 reason for rejection from military service.

3 (5) Between 1995 and 2008, the proportion of
4 potential recruits who failed their physicals each
5 year because they were overweight rose nearly 70
6 percent.

7 (6) The military annually discharges over 1,200
8 first-term enlistees before their contracts are up be-
9 cause of weight problems.

10 (7) The military must then recruit and train
11 their replacements at a cost of \$50,000 for each
12 man or woman.

13 (8) Training replacements for those discharged
14 because of weight problems adds up to more than
15 \$60,000,000 annually.

16 (10) Overweight adolescents are more likely to
17 become overweight adults.

18 (11) Overweight adolescents and overweight
19 adults are at risk of developing obesity-related, life-
20 threatening diseases including cancer, type 2 diabe-
21 tes, stroke, heart disease, arthritis, and breathing
22 problems.

23 (12) According to the American Public Health
24 Association, "left unchecked, obesity will add nearly
25 \$344 billion to the nations annual health care costs

1 by 2018 and account for more than 21 percent of
2 health care spending”.

3 (13) Overweight and undernourished adoles-
4 cents face academic challenges due to poor health
5 behaviors, resulting in even greater risk to their fu-
6 ture health and earning and the Nation’s economic
7 growth and worldwide competition.

8 (14) For decades military leaders have cham-
9 pioned efforts to improve the nutrition of young peo-
10 ple in America.

11 (15) During World War II, 40 percent of re-
12 jected recruits were turned away because of poor or
13 under nutrition.

14 (16) The preamble to the Richard B. Russell
15 National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751) states
16 “It is hereby declared to be the policy of Congress,
17 as a measure of national security, to safeguard the
18 health and well-being of the Nation’s children and to
19 encourage the domestic consumption of nutritious
20 agricultural commodities and other food, by assisting
21 the States, through grants in aid and other means,
22 in providing an adequate supply of food and other
23 facilities for the establishment, maintenance, oper-
24 ation and expansion of nonprofit school lunch pro-
25 grams”.

1 (17) Over 17 million children were food inse-
2 cure, or hungry, in 2008, according to data collected
3 by the Department of Agriculture.

4 (18) The Federal Child Nutrition Programs
5 under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch
6 Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) and the Child Nutri-
7 tion Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.) are prov-
8 en to be effective in combating both hunger and obe-
9 sity.

10 (19) President Obama has called for a historic
11 investment in the Federal Child Nutrition Programs
12 in order to respond to 2 of the greatest child health
13 challenges of our time, hunger and poor nutrition.

14 (20) Two hundred twenty-one Members of Con-
15 gress signed a letter to Speaker Pelosi in support of
16 President Obama's budget request for the Federal
17 Child Nutrition Programs.

18 (21) This same letter requested identification of
19 possible offsets for the new investments in these im-
20 portant anti-hunger and nutrition programs.

21 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
22 gress that—

23 (1) reducing domestic childhood obesity and
24 hunger is a matter of national security;

1 (2) obesity and hunger will continue to nega-
2 tively impact recruitment for Armed Forces without
3 access to physical activity, healthy food, and proper
4 nutrition;

5 (3) Congress should act to reduce childhood
6 obesity and hunger;

7 (4) the Federal Child Nutrition Programs
8 under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch
9 Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) and the Child Nutri-
10 tion Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.) should be
11 funded at the President's request; and

12 (5) the increases in funding for such programs
13 should be properly offset.

