

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4248

To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to reestablish the Driftless Area Landscape Conservation Initiative, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 21, 2023

Mrs. HINSON (for herself and Mr. SORENSEN) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to reestablish the Driftless Area Landscape Conservation Initiative, 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 “Driftless Area Land-
5 scape Conservation Initiative Act” or the “DALCI Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DRIFTLESS AREA LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION INI-**
7 **TIATIVE.**

8 Subchapter A of chapter 4 of subtitle D of title XII
9 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa) is
10 amended by adding at the end the following:

1 **“SEC. 1240H-1. DRIFTLESS AREA LANDSCAPE CONSERVA-**
2 **TION INITIATIVE.**

3 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall estab-
4 lish a Driftless Area Landscape Conservation Initiative to
5 reduce erosion and restore cold water stream corridors in
6 the Driftless Area of the Midwestern United States, with
7 a focus on climate-smart agriculture, carbon sequestra-
8 tion, soil health, and ecological restoration.

9 “(b) INITIATIVE ELEMENTS.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the initia-
11 tive established under this section, the Secretary
12 shall provide assistance to producers to implement
13 practices to—

14 “(A) manage working lands for year-round
15 ground cover to rebuild soil, sequester carbon,
16 improve water quality, increase water holding
17 capacity of soil, reduce soil erosion, and miti-
18 gate flooding and other climate impacts;

19 “(B) manage woodlands for increased bio-
20 diversity to improve the health of the woods to
21 provide habitat and sequester carbon;

22 “(C) restore prairies and manage grass-
23 lands, oak savannas, and barrens to expand
24 habitat and sequester carbon; and

1 “(D) restore cold water streams, by reduc-
2 ing stream bank erosion and threats of flooding
3 while improving trout habitat.

4 “(2) PARTNERSHIPS.—In carrying out the ini-
5 tiative established under this section, the Secretary
6 shall provide assistance to grassroots partnerships to
7 educate landowners and operators on the benefits of
8 climate-smart agriculture, soil health, and holistic
9 grazing, with a focus on equity.

10 “(3) TYPES OF ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary
11 may provide assistance under this section in the
12 form of financial assistance, technical assistance,
13 and payments for the conveyance of easements to
14 the Secretary, under such terms as the Secretary
15 may establish.

16 “(c) FUNDING.—Of the funds made available to carry
17 out this subchapter, the Secretary shall carry out this sec-
18 tion using \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2024
19 through 2028.”.

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