

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2570

To amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to provide technical assistance to improve infrastructure in foreign markets for United States agricultural commodities.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 27, 2023

Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. FETTERMAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to provide technical assistance to improve infrastructure in foreign markets for United States agricultural commodities.

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 “Fortifying Refrigeration Infrastructure and Developing Global Exports Act of
5 tion Infrastructure and Developing Global Exports Act of
6 2023” or the “FRIDGE Act of 2023”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 Congress finds that—

1 (1) 1 of the largest limiting factors to growing
2 export markets for United States food and agri-
3 culture products is insufficient infrastructure capa-
4 bilities;

5 (2) current trade programs are focused on pro-
6 moting specific commodities or products, all of which
7 are reliant on a functioning supply chain;

8 (3) there is a need for dedicated resources to
9 focus on supply chain enhancement in developing
10 countries to enable market expansion and diver-
11 sification;

12 (4) each year, billions of tons of fresh and fro-
13 zen food products and millions of dollars' worth of
14 United States exports are lost due to poor cold chain
15 systems in developing markets; and

16 (5) strengthening global infrastructure plays an
17 important role in promoting trade, reducing food
18 loss and waste, and improving nutrition.

19 **SEC. 3. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO IMPROVE INFRA-**
20 **STRUCTURE IN FOREIGN MARKETS FOR**
21 **UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL COMMOD-**
22 **ITIES.**

23 Section 203(c) of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978
24 (7 U.S.C. 5623(c)) is amended by adding at the end the
25 following:

1 “(4) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO IMPROVE IN-
2 FRASTRUCTURE IN FOREIGN MARKETS FOR UNITED
3 STATES AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES.—

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—As part of the pro-
5 gram established under this subsection, the Sec-
6 retary shall enter into contracts or other agree-
7 ments with eligible trade organizations to pro-
8 vide needs assessment, training, and other tech-
9 nical assistance—

10 “(i) to enhance the capabilities of in-
11 frastructure in new and developing foreign
12 markets, including infrastructure relating
13 to cold chain capacity, port improvements,
14 and other developments; and

15 “(ii) to ensure United States agricul-
16 tural commodities are not damaged or lost
17 due to deficiencies in the infrastructure de-
18 scribed in clause (i).

19 “(B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
20 TIONS.—

21 “(i) IN GENERAL.—There is author-
22 ized to be appropriated to carry out this
23 paragraph \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal
24 years 2024 through 2028.

1 “(ii) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Ex-
2 cept as provided in clause (iii), amounts
3 authorized to be appropriated under this
4 subparagraph may be used only to carry
5 out subparagraph (A).

6 “(iii) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts au-
7 thorized to be appropriated under this sub-
8 paragraph that are not used to carry out
9 subparagraph (A) may be used to carry
10 out the program established under this
11 subsection.”.

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