

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2456

To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to provide for the establishment of climate change mitigation bundles, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 12, 2021

Ms. UNDERWOOD (for herself and Mr. GALLAGHER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

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## A BILL

To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to provide for the establishment of climate change mitigation bundles, 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 “Farmers Fighting Cli-  
5 mate Change Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION BUNDLES.**

7 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1240I(2)(B)(v) of the  
8 Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa-  
9 21(2)(B)(v)) is amended by inserting “climate change  
10 and” before “increasing weather volatility”.

1 (b) RANKING OF APPLICATIONS.—Section  
2 1240K(b)(1)(A) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16  
3 U.S.C. 3839aa–23(b)(1)(A)) is amended—

4 (1) in clause (ii), by striking “; and” and in-  
5 serting a semicolon;

6 (2) by redesignating clause (iii) as clause (iv);  
7 and

8 (3) by inserting after clause (ii) the following:

9 “(iii) the degree to which the com-  
10 bination of the benefits described in  
11 clauses (i) and (ii) effectively target in-  
12 creases in carbon sequestration or net re-  
13 ductions in greenhouse gas emissions;  
14 and”.

15 (c) IN GENERAL.—Section 1240L of the Food Secu-  
16 rity Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–24) is amended by  
17 adding at the end the following:

18 “(m) ESTABLISHMENT OF CLIMATE CHANGE MITI-  
19 GATION BUNDLES.—

20 “(1) AVAILABILITY.—In entering into conserva-  
21 tion stewardship contracts under section 1240K, the  
22 Secretary shall make State- or region-specific cli-  
23 mate change mitigation bundles available to pro-  
24 ducers in all regions of the country, including by  
25 making available climate change mitigation bundles

1 appropriate to cropland, pastureland, rangeland, and  
2 forest land.

3 “(2) FLEXIBILITY.—In designing climate  
4 change mitigation bundles under this subsection, the  
5 Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable,  
6 allow producers to select from among conservation  
7 activities meeting the requirements of paragraph  
8 (3)(A) in order to tailor a climate change mitigation  
9 bundle to the site-specific needs of the producer.

10 “(3) CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION BUNDLE  
11 DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ‘climate  
12 change mitigation bundle’ means a grouping of con-  
13 servation activities determined by the Secretary,  
14 based on the best available science, to achieve sub-  
15 stantial progress, when carried out together, to-  
16 ward—

17 “(A) providing a net reduction of green-  
18 house gas emissions; or

19 “(B) increasing carbon sequestration and  
20 improving soil health.”.

21 (d) REPORT.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after  
23 the first date on which climate change bundles are  
24 made available to producers pursuant to section  
25 1240L(m) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (as

1 added by this Act), the Secretary of Agriculture  
2 shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the  
3 House of Representatives and the Committee on Ag-  
4 riculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a  
5 report on the activities carried out under such sec-  
6 tion.

7 (2) CONTENTS.—The Secretary shall include in  
8 the report submitted under paragraph (1)—

9 (A) a summary of feedback, from pro-  
10 ducers that have adopted climate change miti-  
11 gation bundles pursuant to such section  
12 1240L(m), regarding barriers to adoption of  
13 such bundles, the makeup of such bundles, pay-  
14 ment rates for such bundles, technical assist-  
15 ance relating to such bundles, and other rel-  
16 evant information;

17 (B) data on such producers, disaggregated  
18 by gender, race, age, and congressional district;

19 (C) an assessment of barriers to the adop-  
20 tion by producers of climate change mitigation  
21 bundles, as identified by the Secretary; and

22 (D) recommendations on steps to increase  
23 the adoption of climate change mitigation bun-  
24 dles by producers, including recommendations

1 for any statutory changes necessary to imple-  
2 ment such steps.

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