

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3871

To amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to include as a high-priority research and extension area research on microplastics in land-applied biosolids on farmland.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 6, 2023

Ms. PEREZ (for herself and Mrs. KIM of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to include as a high-priority research and extension area research on microplastics in land-applied biosolids on farmland.

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 “Research for Healthy
5 Soils Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MICROPLASTICS IN LAND-APPLIED BIOSOLIDS ON**
2 **FARMLAND.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1672(d) of the Food, Ag-
4 riculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C.
5 5925(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

6 “(21) MICROPLASTICS IN LAND-APPLIED BIO-
7 SOLIDS ON FARMLAND.—Research and extension
8 grants may be made under this section for the pur-
9 poses of carrying out or enhancing research on the
10 agricultural impacts of microplastics in land-applied
11 biosolids on farmland, including by—

12 “(A) conducting surveys and collecting
13 data on microplastic concentration, particle size
14 and chemical composition in land-applied bio-
15 solids on farmland;

16 “(B) the development or analysis of waste-
17 water treatment techniques to filter out or bio-
18 degrade microplastics from biosolids intended to
19 be used for agricultural purposes;

20 “(C) conducting an analysis of the impact
21 on agricultural crops and soil health of micro-
22 plastics in land-applied biosolids on farmland;

23 “(D) conducting research to better under-
24 stand how wastewater processing impacts
25 microplastics; and

1 “(E) conducting research to better under-
2 stand the fate, residence time, and transport of
3 microplastics on farmland.”.

4 (b) MICROPLASTICS DEFINED.—Section 1672(b) of
5 the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of
6 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5925(b)) is amended by adding at the end
7 the following:

8 “(3) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the term
9 ‘microplastic’ means a plastic or plastic-coated par-
10 ticle that is less than 5 millimeters in any dimen-
11 sion.”.

12 **SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION OF HIGH-PRIORITY RESEARCH**
13 **AND EXTENSION INITIATIVES.**

14 Section 1672 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation,
15 and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5925) is amended by
16 striking “2023” each place it appears in subsection (e)(5),
17 subsection (f)(5), paragraphs (1)(B), (2)(B), and (3) of
18 subsection (g), and subsection (h) and inserting “2028”.

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