

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4612

To provide technical assistance to improve infrastructure in foreign markets
for United States agricultural commodities.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 13, 2023

Mr. FEENSTRA (for himself, Mr. MANN, Mr. COSTA, and Mr. CARBAJAL) in-
troduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agri-
culture

A BILL

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

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 Congress finds the following:

9 (1) One of the largest limiting factors to grow-
10 ing export markets for United States food and agri-

1 culture products is insufficient infrastructure capa-
2 bilities.

3 (2) Current trade programs are focused on pro-
4 moting specific commodities or products, all of which
5 are reliant on a functioning supply chain.

6 (3) There is a need for dedicated resources to
7 focus on supply chain enhancement in developing
8 countries to enable market expansion and diver-
9 sification.

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

14 (5) Strengthening global infrastructure plays an
15 important role in promoting trade, reducing food
16 loss and waste, and improving nutrition.

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

21 Section 203(c) of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978
22 (7 U.S.C. 5623(c)) is amended by adding at the end the
23 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 assessments, training, and other
9 technical assistance to enhance the capabilities
10 of infrastructure in new and developing foreign
11 markets, including infrastructure relating to
12 cold chain capacity, port improvements, and
13 other developments, to ensure United States ag-
14 ricultural commodities are not damaged or lost
15 due to deficiencies of such infrastructure.

16 “(B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
17 TIONS.—

18 “(i) IN GENERAL.—There is author-
19 ized to be appropriated to carry out this
20 paragraph \$1,000,000 for each of the fis-
21 cal years 2024 through 2028.

22 “(ii) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—
23 Amounts authorized to be appropriated
24 under this subparagraph may be used only

1 for the purposes described in subparagraph
2 (A).

3 “(iii) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts au-
4 thorized to be appropriated under this sub-
5 paragraph that are not used to carry out
6 this paragraph are authorized to be made
7 available to carry out the program estab-
8 lished under this subsection.”.

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