

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2898

To amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to authorize the use of certain grants to deliver peer-to-peer mental health support to individuals who are engaged in farming, ranching, farm work, and other occupations relating to agriculture.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

Mr. PADILLA introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to authorize the use of certain grants to deliver peer-to-peer mental health support to individuals who are engaged in farming, ranching, farm work, and other occupations relating to agriculture.

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 “Supporting Farm-
5 workers’ Mental Health Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds that farmworkers—

3 (1) are vital to the economy and food supply of
4 the United States; and

5 (2) who are disproportionately affected by
6 stress and anxiety, often lack access to behavioral
7 health care services.

8 **SEC. 3. FARM AND RANCH STRESS ASSISTANCE NETWORK.**

9 Section 7522 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy
10 Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 5936) is amended—

11 (1) by inserting “farm work,” after “ranching,”
12 each place it appears;

13 (2) in subsection (b)—

14 (A) in paragraph (1)(D), by striking “or”
15 at the end;

16 (B) by redesignating paragraph (2) as
17 paragraph (3);

18 (C) by inserting after paragraph (1) the
19 following:

20 “(2) to initiate, expand, or sustain programs
21 that deliver peer-to-peer mental health support to in-
22 dividuals who are engaged in farming, ranching,
23 farm work, and other occupations relating to agri-
24 culture; or”; and

25 (D) in paragraph (3) (as so redesignated),
26 by striking “paragraph (1) and subsection (a)”

1 and inserting “paragraphs (1) and (2) and sub-
2 section (a)”; and
3 (3) in subsection (d), by striking “2023” and
4 inserting “2028”.

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