

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5716

To provide for the continuation of agricultural disaster assistance programs
in the event of a Government shutdown.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 8, 2025

Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY (for herself, Ms. McCLELLAN, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. FIGURES, Ms. ELFRETH, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, and Ms. ADAMS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To provide for the continuation of agricultural disaster
assistance programs in the event of a Government shutdown.

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 “Federal Agricultural
5 Relief Maintained during Shutdowns And Federal Emer-
6 gencies Act” or the “FARM SAFE Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CONTINUATION OF AGRICULTURAL DISASTER AS-**
2 **SISTANCE PROGRAMS DURING LAPSES IN AP-**
3 **PROPRIATIONS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
5 sion of law, during a lapse in appropriations described in
6 subsection (a), any employee of the Department of Agri-
7 culture necessary to carry out an agricultural disaster as-
8 sistance program—

9 (1) shall be treated as an excepted employee
10 under section 1341 of title 31, United States Code,
11 who is required to perform work during such lapse
12 in appropriations, notwithstanding section 1342 of
13 such title; and

14 (2) may not be removed under a reduction in
15 force.

16 (b) AGRICULTURAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
17 DEFINED.—In this section, the term “agricultural dis-
18 aster assistance program” means—

19 (1) a program under title IV of the Agricultural
20 Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.);

21 (2) a program under section 1501 of the Agri-
22 cultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9081); and

23 (3) a program authorized pursuant to an Act of
24 Congress under which the Secretary of Agriculture

- 1 provides disaster assistance, as determined by the
- 2 Secretary.

