

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5829

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a grant program to support the use of unmanned aerial systems for the humane roundup and management of wild horses and burros.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 24, 2025

Mr. VINDMAN (for himself and Mr. BUCHANAN) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a grant program to support the use of unmanned aerial systems for the humane roundup and management of wild horses and burros.

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 “Leveraging Aerial Sys-
5 tems for Stewardship Operations (LASSO) Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. WILD FREE-ROAMING HORSES AND BURROS UAS**
2 **PROGRAM.**

3 Section 9 of the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Bur-
4 ros Act (16 U.S.C. 1338a) is amended—

5 (1) by striking “In administering this Act,” and
6 inserting the following:

7 “(a) In administering this Act,”; and

8 (2) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(b) For each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030,
10 from funds made available to carry out this Act, the Sec-
11 retary shall allocate \$100,000 for grants to support pilot
12 projects that test whether unmanned aerial systems can
13 be used to successfully and humanely gather and manage
14 wild horses and burros. Grants issued under this sub-
15 section shall be awarded to organizations, including insti-
16 tutions of higher learning, with demonstrated expertise in
17 drone technology, and a proven commitment to research
18 which furthers equine welfare. Grants may also support
19 pilot projects using unmanned aerial systems for humane
20 fertility control application and related herd-health efforts.
21 Reports with results from all funded pilot projects shall
22 be made available to Congress and the public not later
23 than 180 days after the conclusion of each study. Organi-
24 zations receiving grants under this subsection shall also
25 submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of
26 Representatives and the Department of Agriculture a re-

1 port evaluating the potential uses of unmanned aerial sys-
2 tems for ranching, animal care, and environmental stew-
3 ardship.”.

