

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9572

To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to clarify land eligible for enrollment in the conservation reserve program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 2, 2026

Ms. BALINT introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to clarify land
eligible for enrollment in the conservation reserve program.

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 “Building Up Farmland
5 Frontiers for Ecological Resilience Act” or the “BUFFER
6 Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. ELIGIBLE LAND UNDER THE CONSERVATION RE-**
8 **SERVE PROGRAM.**

9 Section 1231(b) of the Food Security Act of 1985
10 (16 U.S.C. 3831(b)) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (6)(B)(ii), by striking “or” at
2 the end;

3 (2) in paragraph (7)—

4 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph
5 (A), by striking “as determined by the Sec-
6 retary,”; and

7 (B) in subparagraph (C), by striking the
8 period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

9 (3) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(8) land that is otherwise eligible for enroll-
11 ment and for which a Tribal, State, or other local
12 law, ordinance, or other regulation requires any re-
13 source-conserving or environmental protection meas-
14 ure or practice, unless the requirement to implement
15 such a measure or practice has been imposed by an
16 administrative order or a court order, in which case
17 that land shall not be eligible for enrollment.”.

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