

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 4470

To amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to improve the Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 30, 2026

Mr. FETTERMAN (for himself, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. SMITH, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BENNET, Mr. HEINRICH, and Mr. HICKENLOOPER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

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## A BILL

To amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to improve the Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production, and for other purposes.

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 Urban and  
5       Innovative Farming Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. OFFICE OF URBAN AGRICULTURE AND INNOVATIVE**  
2 **PRODUCTION.**

3 Section 222 of the Department of Agriculture Reor-  
4 ganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6923) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a)(3)—

6 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph  
7 (A), by inserting “production” after “emerging  
8 agricultural”;

9 (B) in subparagraph (D)—

10 (i) by inserting “controlled-envi-  
11 ronment agriculture, including” before “hy-  
12 droponic”; and

13 (ii) by striking “and” at the end;

14 (C) by redesignating subparagraph (E) as  
15 subparagraph (H); and

16 (D) by inserting after subparagraph (D)  
17 the following:

18 “(E) using the resources of the Depart-  
19 ment and of State, Tribal, and local agencies to  
20 provide technical assistance for business incor-  
21 poration, navigating local zoning, and managing  
22 farm tract numbers for smaller, noncontiguous  
23 parcels to growers implementing activities de-  
24 scribed in this paragraph;

25 “(F) using the resources of the Depart-  
26 ment and of State, Tribal, and local agencies to

1 promote conservation techniques unique to  
 2 urban agriculture and innovative production, in-  
 3 cluding techniques that address stormwater  
 4 runoff and the impacted nature of urban land  
 5 and the subsurface of the land;

6 “(G) assisting urban and innovative pro-  
 7 ducers in navigating Federal, State, Tribal, and  
 8 local policies and regulations that impact busi-  
 9 ness or operations; and”;

10 (2) in subsection (b)—

11 (A) in paragraph (5)(B), by striking  
 12 “2023” and inserting “2030”; and

13 (B) in paragraph (7)(A), by striking “the  
 14 date that is 5 years after the date on which the  
 15 members are appointed under paragraph  
 16 (2)(B)” and inserting “September 30, 2030”;

17 (3) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the  
 18 following:

19 “(c) GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

20 “(1) GRANTS.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall  
 22 award competitive grants to support the devel-  
 23 opment of urban and innovative agricultural  
 24 production and technical or financial assistance  
 25 to producers.

1           “(B) SUBGRANTS.—An eligible entity may  
 2           use funds from a grant under subparagraph (A)  
 3           to provide subgrants to urban and innovative  
 4           producers to support the growth of the farm or  
 5           farm business of the urban and innovative pro-  
 6           ducers.

7           “(C) PRIORITY.—In awarding competitive  
 8           grants under this paragraph, the Director shall  
 9           prioritize projects that improve access to local  
 10          foods in areas where access to fresh, healthy  
 11          food is limited.

12          “(D) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—An entity eligi-  
 13          ble to receive a grant under subparagraph (A)  
 14          is—

15                 “(i) a nonprofit organization;

16                 “(ii) a unit of local government;

17                 “(iii) a Tribal organization;

18                 “(iv) an agricultural cooperative or  
 19                 other agricultural business entity or a pro-  
 20                 ducer network or association; or

21                 “(v) a school that serves any of  
 22                 grades kindergarten through grade 12.

23          “(2) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

24                 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director may  
 25                 enter into cooperative agreements with eligible

1 entities to support the development of urban  
 2 and innovative agricultural production.

3 “(B) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—An entity eligi-  
 4 ble to enter into a cooperative agreement under  
 5 subparagraph (A) is—

6 “(i) a nonprofit organization;

7 “(ii) a unit of local government;

8 “(iii) a Tribal organization; or

9 “(iv) an agricultural cooperative or a  
 10 producer network or association.”;

11 (4) in subsection (d)—

12 (A) in the subsection heading, by striking  
 13 “PILOT PROJECTS” and inserting “PROJECTS”;

14 (B) in paragraph (1)—

15 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
 16 “Not later than 1 year after the date of  
 17 enactment of this section, the Secretary  
 18 shall establish a pilot program for not  
 19 fewer than 5 years that” and inserting  
 20 “The Secretary shall carry out a program  
 21 that”; and

22 (ii) in subparagraph (C)—

23 (I) in the matter preceding clause

24 (i), by striking “2023” and inserting  
 25 “2030”; and

1 (II) in clause (i), by striking  
 2 “pilot”; and  
 3 (C) in paragraph (2)—  
 4 (i) in subparagraph (A)—  
 5 (I) by striking “pilot”;  
 6 (II) by striking “local or munic-  
 7 ipal” and inserting “local, municipal,  
 8 Tribal, State, or United States terri-  
 9 tory”; and  
 10 (III) by inserting “or territories”  
 11 after “States”;  
 12 (ii) in subparagraph (B)—  
 13 (I) in the subparagraph heading,  
 14 by striking “PILOT”; and  
 15 (II) in the matter preceding  
 16 clause (i), by inserting “Tribal gov-  
 17 ernments, States, United States terri-  
 18 tories,” after “local governments,”;  
 19 and  
 20 (iii) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
 21 “pilot” each place it appears; and  
 22 (5) by striking subsection (e) and inserting the  
 23 following:  
 24 “(e) FUNDING.—

1           “(1) MANDATORY FUNDING.—Of the funds of  
 2           the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary  
 3           shall use to carry out this section \$15,000,000 for  
 4           fiscal year 2026 and each fiscal year thereafter.

5           “(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—  
 6           There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
 7           this section \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years  
 8           2026 through 2030.”.

9   **SEC. 3. AGRICULTURE AND FOOD RESEARCH INITIATIVE.**

10          Section 2(b)(2)(E) of the Competitive, Special, and  
 11          Facilities Research Grants Act (7 U.S.C. 3157(b)(2)(E))  
 12          is amended—

13                 (1) in clause (iv), by striking “and” at the end;

14                 (2) in clause (v), by striking the period at the  
 15          end and inserting “; and”; and

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

17                         “(vi)     hydroponics,     aquaponics,  
 18                         aeroponics, and other production tech-  
 19                         nologies used in controlled-environment ag-  
 20                         riculture production.”.

21   **SEC. 4. DATA COLLECTION.**

22          Section 7212(b) of the Agriculture Improvement Act  
 23          of 2018 (Public Law 115–334; 132 Stat. 4812) is amend-  
 24          ed—

1           (1) in paragraph (1), in the matter preceding  
2       subparagraph (A)—

3           (A) by striking “Not later than one year  
4       after the date of enactment of this Act, the”  
5       and inserting “The”; and

6           (B) by striking “the census of agriculture  
7       conducted in the calendar year 2017” and in-  
8       serting “each census of agriculture”; and

9           (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “\$14,000,000  
10      for the period of fiscal years 2019 through 2021”  
11      and inserting “\$18,000,000 for each of fiscal years  
12      2026 through 2030, to remain available until ex-  
13      pended”.

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