

108TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4858

To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide financial assistance for the construction, improvement, and rehabilitation of farmers markets.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 19, 2004

Ms. KAPTUR (for herself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. DEFazio, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. SERRANO, and Ms. SLAUGHTER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

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## A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide financial assistance for the construction, improvement, and rehabilitation of farmers markets.

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 “Farmers Markets In-  
5       frastructure Assistance Act of 2004”.

6       **SEC. 2. INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING FOR FARMERS MAR-**  
7       **KETS.**

8       (a) IN GENERAL.—In addition to exercising authority  
9       to make loans and loan guarantees under other law, the

1 Secretary shall make loans, loan guarantees, and grants  
2 to public agencies and nonprofit organizations for the con-  
3 struction of new farmers markets, or the improvement or  
4 rehabilitation of existing farmers markets.

5 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a loan,  
6 loan guarantee, or grant under subsection (a) with respect  
7 to a farmers market the public agency or nonprofit organi-  
8 zation involved shall—

9 (1) demonstrate financial need as determined  
10 by the Secretary; and

11 (2) commit to reserving at least 50 percent of  
12 the floor area of the farmers market for the sale of  
13 products that are produced locally by farmers,  
14 ranchers, or associations of farmers or ranchers.

15 (c) COST SHARING.—

16 (1) GRANTS.—The amount of a grant shall not  
17 exceed 25 percent of the cost of the activity funded  
18 under subsection (a).

19 (2) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF COMBINED GRANT  
20 AND LOAN.—The combined amount of a grant and  
21 loan made or guaranteed shall not exceed 80 percent  
22 of the cost of the activity funded under subsection  
23 (a).

24 (d) INTEREST RATE.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—A loan made by the Sec-  
2       retary under subsection (a) shall bear interest at the  
3       rate equivalent to the rate of interest charged on  
4       Treasury securities of comparable maturity on the  
5       date the loan is approved.

6           (2) DURATION.—The interest rate for each loan  
7       will remain in effect for the term of the loan.

8       (e) FUNDING.—Of the funds of the Commodity Cred-  
9       it Corporation, the Secretary shall make available to carry  
10      out this section \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2005  
11      through 2007.

12      (f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This Act shall take effect on  
13      October 1, 2004.

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