

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3538

To amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to suspend a prohibition on payments to certain farms with limited base acres for the 2008 and 2009 crop years, to extend the signup for direct payments and counter-cyclical payments for the 2008 crop year, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 23 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 17), 2008

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. KOHL, Mr. CASEY, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. BROWN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. COLEMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. CLINTON, Mrs. DOLE, and Mr. BAUCUS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to suspend a prohibition on payments to certain farms with limited base acres for the 2008 and 2009 crop years, to extend the signup for direct payments and counter-cyclical payments for the 2008 crop year, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. TREATMENT OF FARMS WITH LIMITED BASE**
 2 **ACRES.**

3 (a) **SUSPENSION OF PROHIBITION.—**

4 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1101(d) of the
 5 Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7
 6 U.S.C. 8711(d)) is amended by adding at the end
 7 the following:

8 “(4) **SUSPENSION OF PROHIBITION.**—Para-
 9 graphs (1) through (3) shall not apply during the
 10 2008 and 2009 crop years.”.

11 (2) **PEANUTS.**—Section 1302(d) of the Food,
 12 Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C.
 13 8752(d)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 14 lowing:

15 “(4) **SUSPENSION OF PROHIBITION.**—Para-
 16 graphs (1) through (3) shall not apply during the
 17 2008 and 2009 crop years.”.

18 (b) **EXTENSION OF 2008 SIGNUP FOR DIRECT PAY-**
 19 **MENTS AND COUNTER-CYCLICAL PAYMENTS.—**

20 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1106 of the Food,
 21 Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C.
 22 8716) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 23 lowing:

24 “(f) **EXTENSION OF 2008 SIGNUP.**—

25 “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other
 26 provision of law, the Secretary shall extend the 2008

1 crop year deadline for the signup for benefits under
2 this subtitle by producers on a farm with base acres
3 of 10 acres or less until December 31, 2008.

4 “(2) PENALTIES.—The Secretary shall ensure
5 that no penalty with respect to benefits under this
6 subtitle is assessed against producers on a farm de-
7 scribed in paragraph (1) for failure to submit re-
8 ports under this section or timely comply with other
9 program requirements as a result of compliance with
10 the extended signup deadline under that para-
11 graph.”.

12 (2) PEANUTS.—Section 1305 of the Food, Con-
13 servation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 8755)
14 is amended by adding at the end the following:

15 “(f) EXTENSION OF 2008 SIGNUP.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
17 provision of law, the Secretary shall extend the 2008
18 crop year deadline for the signup for benefits under
19 this subtitle by producers on a farm with base acres
20 of 10 acres or less until December 31, 2008.

21 “(2) PENALTIES.—The Secretary shall ensure
22 that no penalty with respect to benefits under this
23 subtitle is assessed against producers on a farm de-
24 scribed in paragraph (1) for failure to submit re-
25 ports under this section or timely comply with other

1 program requirements as a result of compliance with
2 the extended signup deadline under that para-
3 graph.”.

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