

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4313

To amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to require an evaluation of county workload assessments for purposes of the closure or relocation of a county office for the Farm Service Agency, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 29, 2012

Mr. BOSWELL (for himself and Mr. CRAWFORD) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to require an evaluation of county workload assessments for purposes of the closure or relocation of a county office for the Farm Service Agency, 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 “Farm Service Account-
5 ability Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. EVALUATION REQUIRED FOR PURPOSES OF PROHI-**
2 **BITION ON CLOSURE OR RELOCATION OF**
3 **COUNTY OFFICES FOR THE FARM SERVICE**
4 **AGENCY.**

5 (a) PROHIBITION ON CLOSURE OR RELOCATION OF
6 OFFICES WITH HIGH WORKLOAD VOLUME.—Section
7 14212 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008
8 (7 U.S.C. 6932a) is amended by striking subsection (a)
9 and inserting the following subsection:

10 “(a) PROHIBITION ON CLOSURE OR RELOCATION OF
11 OFFICES WITH HIGH WORKLOAD VOLUME.—The Sec-
12 retary of Agriculture may not close or relocate a county
13 or field office of the Farm Service Agency in a State if
14 the Secretary determines, after conducting the evaluation
15 required under subsection (b)(1)(B), that the office has
16 a high workload volume compared with other county of-
17 fices in the State.”.

18 (b) WORKLOAD EVALUATION.—Section 14212(b)(1)
19 of such Act (7 U.S.C. 6932a(b)(1)) is amended—

20 (1) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and
21 (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively;

22 (2) by striking “the Farm Service Agency, to
23 the maximum extent practicable” and inserting “the
24 Farm Service Agency—

25 “(A) to the maximum extent practicable”;

1 (3) in clause (ii) (as redesignated by paragraph
2 (1))—

3 (A) by inserting “as of the date of the en-
4 actment of this Act” after “employees”; and

5 (B) by striking the period at the end and
6 inserting “; and”; and

7 (4) by adding at the end the following subpara-
8 graph:

9 “(B) conduct an evaluation of all Farm
10 Service Agency county office workload assess-
11 ments.”.

12 (c) NOTICE REQUIRED.—Section 14212(b)(2) of
13 such Act (7 U.S.C. 6932a(b)(2)) is amended—

14 (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),
15 by striking “After the period referred to in sub-
16 section (a)(1), the Secretary of Agriculture may not
17 close a county or field office of the Farm Service
18 Agency unless—” and inserting “After carrying out
19 each of the activities required under paragraph (1),
20 the Secretary of Agriculture shall, before closing a
21 county or field office of the Farm Service Agency—
22 ”;

23 (2) in subparagraph (A), by striking “the Sec-
24 retary holds” and inserting “hold”; and

1 (3) in subparagraph (B), by striking “the Sec-
2 retary notifies” and inserting “notify”;

3 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
4 14212(b)(1) of such Act (7 U.S.C. 6932a(b)(1)) is amend-
5 ed by striking “After the period referred to in subsection
6 (a)(1), the Secretary” and inserting “The Secretary”.

○