

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1247

To amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to support crop insurance for specialty crops, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 19, 2013

Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York (for himself and Mr. GIBSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to support crop insurance for specialty crops, 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 “Creating Reliability
5 for Our Producers Act” or “CROP Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ADVANCE PAYMENTS FOR UNDERSERVED REGIONS**
7 **AND CROPS.**

8 Section 522(b)(2) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act
9 (7 U.S.C. 1522(b)(2)) is amended by striking subpara-
10 graph (E) and inserting the following:

1 “(E) APPROVAL.—

2 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Board may
3 approve up to 75 percent of the projected
4 total research and development costs to be
5 paid in advance to an applicant, in accord-
6 ance with the procedures developed by the
7 Board for the making of the payments, if,
8 after consideration of the reviewer reports
9 described in subparagraph (D) and such
10 other information as the Board determines
11 appropriate, the Board determines—

12 “(I) the concept, in good faith,
13 will likely result in a viable and mar-
14 ketable policy consistent with section
15 508(h);

16 “(II) in the sole opinion of the
17 Board, the concept, if developed into a
18 policy and approved by the Board,
19 would provide crop insurance cov-
20 erage—

21 “(aa) in a significantly im-
22 proved form;

23 “(bb) to a crop or region not
24 traditionally served by the Fed-
25 eral crop insurance program; or

1 “(cc) in a form that ad-
2 dresses a recognized flaw or
3 problem in the program;

4 “(III) the applicant agrees to
5 provide such reports as the Corpora-
6 tion determines are necessary to mon-
7 itor the development effort;

8 “(IV) the proposed budget and
9 timetable are reasonable; and

10 “(V) the concept proposal meets
11 any other requirements that the
12 Board determines appropriate.

13 “(ii) WAIVER.—The Board may waive
14 the cap specified in clause (i) on the ad-
15 vance payment of costs and pay more of
16 the projected total research and develop-
17 ment costs in advance if, in the sole discre-
18 tion of the Board, the Board determines
19 that the concept proposal provides cov-
20 erage for a region or crop that is under-
21 served by the Federal crop insurance pro-
22 gram, including specialty crops.”.

1 **SEC. 3. AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT RESEARCH AND DEVEL-**
2 **OPMENT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 522(c) of the Federal
4 Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1522(c)) is amended—

5 (1) in the subsection heading by striking “CON-
6 TRACTING”;

7 (2) in paragraph (1), in the matter preceding
8 subparagraph (A), by striking “may enter into con-
9 tracts to carry out research and development to”
10 and inserting “may conduct activities or enter into
11 contracts to carry out research and development to
12 maintain or improve existing policies or develop new
13 policies to”;

14 (3) in paragraph (2)—

15 (A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting
16 “conduct research and development or” after
17 “The Corporation may”; and

18 (B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting
19 “conducting research and development or” after
20 “Before”;

21 (4) in paragraph (5), by inserting “after expert
22 review in accordance with section 505(e)” after “ap-
23 proved by the Board”; and

24 (5) in paragraph (6), by striking “a pasture,
25 range, and forage program” and inserting “policies
26 that increase participation by producers of under-

1 served agricultural commodities, including specialty
2 crops”.

3 (b) FUNDING.—Section 522(e) of the Federal Crop
4 Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1522(e)) is amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (2)—

6 (A) by striking “(A) AUTHORITY.—” and
7 inserting “(A) CONDUCTING AND CONTRACTING
8 FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—”;

9 (B) in subparagraph (A), by inserting
10 “conduct research and development and” after
11 “the Corporation may use to”; and

12 (C) in subparagraph (B), by inserting
13 “conduct research and development and” after
14 “for the fiscal year to”;

15 (2) in paragraph (3), by striking “to provide ei-
16 ther reimbursement payments or contract pay-
17 ments”; and

18 (3) by striking paragraph (4).

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