

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3495

To amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to designate certain research and extension grants to increase participation by women and underrepresented minorities in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics as “Jeannette Rankin Women and Minorities in STEM Fields Grants”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 5, 2016

Mr. DAINES (for himself and Mr. TESTER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to designate certain research and extension grants to increase participation by women and underrepresented minorities in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics as “Jeannette Rankin Women and Minorities in STEM Fields Grants”.

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 “100 Years of Women
5 in Congress Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) The first woman elected to Congress, Rep-
4 resentative Jeannette Rankin from the State of
5 Montana, was elected on November 7, 1916, almost
6 4 years before the ratification of the 19th Amend-
7 ment to the Constitution of the United States, which
8 gave women the right to vote.

9 (2) Jeannette Rankin was not only a pioneer in
10 national electoral politics, she was also a pioneer as
11 a woman in science, graduating from the University
12 of Montana in 1902 with a Bachelor of Science de-
13 gree in biology.

14 (3)(A) 100 years after the election of Jeannette
15 Rankin, 108 women serve in the 114th Congress,
16 more than at any other time in the history of the
17 United States.

18 (B) While that accomplishment is commend-
19 able, women hold only 20 percent of the seats in
20 Congress, far below the relative share of women in
21 the electorate of the United States.

22 (4) According to the Bureau of Labor Statis-
23 tics—

24 (A) women make up 47 percent of the
25 total workforce of the United States; and

(B) gains have been made for women in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (referred to in this section as “STEM”) fields over time, but women still comprise only—

(i) 39 percent of chemists and material scientists;

(ii) 28 percent of environmental scientists and geoscientists;

(iii) 16 percent of chemical engineers;

and

(iv) 12 percent of civil engineers.

(5) More must be done to encourage women to run for elected office and to enter the STEM fields.

SEC. 3. JEANNETTE RANKIN WOMEN AND MINORITIES IN STEM FIELDS GRANTS.

Section 1672(d)(7) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5925(d)(7)) is amended—

(1) by striking the paragraph heading and inserting “JEANNETTE RANKIN WOMEN AND MINORITIES IN STEM FIELDS GRANTS”;

(2) by striking “Research” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Research”; and

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

2 “(B) DESIGNATION.—Any grant made
3 under subparagraph (A) shall be known as a
4 ‘Jeannette Rankin Women and Minorities in
5 STEM Fields Grant’.”.

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