

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 5066

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a grant program to make grants to State departments of agriculture for the research and development of disease resistant varieties of tropical flowers.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 16, 2018

Ms. GABBARD (for herself and Ms. HANABUSA) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a grant program to make grants to State departments of agriculture for the research and development of disease resistant varieties of tropical flowers.

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 “State Assistance for  
5       Tropical Floriculture Research Act of 2018”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Congress finds the following:

1           (1) Tropical flowers contribute a natural and  
2           beautiful element to human environments, retain  
3           cultural, historic, and ceremonial significance to na-  
4           tive peoples and others, and sustain an agricultural  
5           economy that employs thousands of Americans.

6           (2) Given the value of tropical flowers, the pub-  
7           lic stands to benefit from scientific research that  
8           protects these flowers against diseases.

9   **SEC. 3. TROPICAL FLORICULTURE RESEARCH GRANT PRO-**  
10                           **GRAM.**

11       (a) PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—

12           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture  
13           shall establish and carry out a grant program to  
14           make grants, on a competitive basis, to State de-  
15           partments of agriculture for the research and devel-  
16           opment of disease resistant varieties of tropical flow-  
17           ers.

18           (2) MINIMUM AMOUNT OF GRANT.—A grant  
19           awarded under this subsection may not be less than  
20           \$250,000 for a fiscal year.

21       (b) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant  
22       under this section, a State department of agriculture shall  
23       submit an application at such time, in such manner, and  
24       containing such information as the Secretary of Agri-  
25       culture may require, including the State department of ag-

1 riculture's plan to research and develop disease resistant  
2 varieties of tropical flowers.

3 (c) TEMPORARY INELIGIBILITY FOR SUBSEQUENT  
4 GRANTS.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall determine a  
5 State department of agriculture to be ineligible to receive  
6 a grant payment under this section for a fiscal year if the  
7 Secretary determines that the State department of agri-  
8 culture did not comply with the plan submitted under sub-  
9 section (b).

10 (d) AUDIT.—

11 (1) AUDIT REQUIRED.—For each year in which  
12 a State department of agriculture receives a grant  
13 under this section, the State department of agri-  
14 culture shall conduct an audit of the use of such  
15 grant funds.

16 (2) SUBMISSION OF AUDIT.—Not later than 30  
17 days after an audit is completed pursuant to para-  
18 graph (1), the State department of agriculture shall  
19 submit such audit to the Secretary of Agriculture.

20 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
21 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
22 \$10,000,000 for fiscal years 2018 through 2020.

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