

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8909

To require the Natural Resources Conservation Service to review the national conservation practice standards, taking into consideration climate benefits, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 9, 2020

Ms. BROWNLEY of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

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## A BILL

To require the Natural Resources Conservation Service to review the national conservation practice standards, taking into consideration climate benefits, 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 “Climate Agricultural  
5       Conservation Practices Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CONSIDERATION OF CLIMATE BENEFITS IN CON-**  
2 **SERVATION PRACTICE STANDARDS.**

3 Section 1242(h) of the Food Security Act of 1985  
4 (16 U.S.C. 3842(h)) is amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (1)—

6 (A) by amending subparagraph (A) to read  
7 as follows:

8 “(A) not later than 4 years after the date  
9 of enactment of the Climate Agricultural Con-  
10 servation Practices Act, and every 4 years  
11 thereafter, complete a review of each conserva-  
12 tion practice standard, including engineering  
13 design specifications, in effect on the first day  
14 of the 4-year period covered by such review;”;

15 (B) in subparagraph (C), by striking “;  
16 and” and inserting a semicolon;

17 (C) in subparagraph (D), by striking the  
18 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

19 (D) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(E) evaluate the climate benefits of the  
21 standards.”;

22 (2) in paragraph (3)(B), by striking “conserva-  
23 tion innovations and” and inserting “climate bene-  
24 fits, conservation innovations, and”; and

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

1           “(5) CLIMATE BENEFIT DEFINED.—In this sub-  
2       section, the term ‘climate benefit’ means—

3           “(A) a reduction in agricultural green-  
4       house gas emissions;

5           “(B) an increase in carbon sequestration;  
6       or

7           “(C) mitigation against, or adaptation to,  
8       increased weather volatility.”.

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