

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9034

To amend the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Grant Act to include agricultural climate adaptation and mitigation as a priority area addressed by the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 18, 2020

Ms. SCHRIER (for herself and Mr. HUFFMAN) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Grant Act to include agricultural climate adaptation and mitigation as a priority area addressed by the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative, 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 “Research to Reduce
5 Agricultural Methane Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) Greenhouse gasses, including carbon diox-
2 ide, methane, nitrous oxide, and fluorinated gasses,
3 are gasses that trap heat in the atmosphere.

4 (2) Global climate change is widely attributed
5 to increasing concentrations of greenhouse gasses in
6 our atmosphere.

7 (3) According to the Global Carbon Project,
8 methane (CH₄) is the second highest greenhouse gas
9 contributing to human-induced climate change.
10 Methane has a significantly larger global warming
11 potential than carbon dioxide.

12 (4) According to EPA's 2018 Inventory of U.S.
13 Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks, enteric fer-
14 mentation was the largest anthropogenic source of
15 methane in the United States representing 28 per-
16 cent of domestic methane emissions.

17 (5) Ruminants, hooved, four legged mammals
18 that possess stomachs with four compartments, such
19 as cattle, buffaloes, sheep and goats, produce meth-
20 ane through enteric fermentation, their normal di-
21 gestive process, and manure management and have
22 the highest methane emissions per unit of body mass
23 among all animal types.

24 (6) Many factors influence methane emissions
25 from livestock including, level of feed intake, type of

1 carbohydrate in the diet, feed processing, and
2 changes in the animal's microbiome.

3 (7) Multiple peer review studies have indicated
4 enormous methane mitigation potential of feed addi-
5 tives, including seaweed.

6 (8) Farming practices, including methods to re-
7 duce methane emissions from livestock, hold enor-
8 mous potential to address climate change.

9 (9) Farmers and growers are leading stewards
10 of the land and are on the front lines experiencing
11 the immediate impacts of climate change.

12 **SEC. 3. AGRICULTURAL CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND MITI-**
13 **GATION THROUGH THE AGRICULTURE AND**
14 **FOOD RESEARCH INITIATIVE.**

15 Subsection (b)(2) of the Competitive, Special, and
16 Facilities Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 3157(b)(2)) is amended by
17 adding at the end the following:

18 “(G) AGRICULTURAL EMISSIONS MITIGA-
19 TION.—Agricultural climate adaptation and
20 mitigation, including—

21 “(i) methods to reduce methane emis-
22 sions from livestock production, includ-
23 ing—

1 “(I) feeds, feed additives, and
2 feeding regimes, such as adding sea-
3 weed to diet;
4 “(II) changes in grain-to-forage
5 ratio;
6 “(III) grinding and pelleting of
7 feed;
8 “(IV) the use of enzymes; and
9 “(V) other methods and prod-
10 ucts; and
11 “(ii) new technologies to measure and
12 verify environmentally beneficial outcomes
13 of emission mitigation efforts.”.

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