

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 9619

To establish a pilot program for native plant species, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 20, 2022

Mr. CARTWRIGHT introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To establish a pilot program for native plant species, 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 “Native Plant Species  
5 Pilot Program Act of 2022”.

6       **SEC. 2. PILOT PROGRAM FOR NATIVE PLANT SPECIES.**

7       (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8               (1) INVASIVE SPECIES.—The term “invasive  
9 species” means, with respect to a particular eco-  
10 system, a nonnative organism, the introduction of  
11 which causes or is likely to cause economic or envi-

1       ronmental harm or harm to human, animal, or plant  
2       health.

3           (2) **LOCALLY ADAPTED.**—The term “locally  
4       adapted” means, with respect to plants, plants  
5       that—

6           (A) originate from an area that is geo-  
7       graphically proximate to a planting area; and

8           (B) are environmentally adapted to and  
9       likely to become established and persist in that  
10      planting area.

11          (3) **NATIVE PLANT SPECIES.**—The term “native  
12      plant species” means, with respect to a particular  
13      ecosystem, a species that, other than as a result of  
14      an introduction, historically occurred or currently oc-  
15      curs in that ecosystem.

16          (4) **NONNATIVE.**—The term “nonnative”  
17      means, with respect to a particular ecosystem, an or-  
18      ganism, including the seeds, eggs, spores, or other  
19      biological material of the organism capable of propa-  
20      gating that species, that occurs outside of the nat-  
21      ural range of the organism.

22          (5) **PLANT MATERIAL.**—The term “plant mate-  
23      rial” means a plant or the seeds, eggs, spores, or  
24      other biological material of a plant capable of propa-  
25      gating the species of the plant.

1 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after  
2 the date on which funds are made available to carry out  
3 this section, the Secretary shall, in accordance with any  
4 existing laws and management policies, carry out a pilot  
5 program to prioritize the use of native plant species within  
6 geographically diverse units of the National Park System  
7 and public land administered by the Bureau of Land Man-  
8 agement.

9 (c) IMPLEMENTATION.—In carrying out the pilot pro-  
10 gram under subsection (b), the Secretary shall, to the ex-  
11 tent practicable—

12 (1) give preference to the use of locally adapted  
13 native plant materials where appropriate;

14 (2) incorporate efforts to prevent, control, or  
15 eradicate the spread of invasive species;

16 (3) incorporate efforts to use native plants in  
17 areas that have experienced a recent wildfire event;  
18 and

19 (4) identify situations in which the use of non-  
20 native plants may be warranted.

21 (d) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall, in car-  
22 rying out the pilot program under subsection (b), coordi-  
23 nate activities with—

24 (1) the National Seed Strategy of the Bureau  
25 of Land Management;

1           (2) the Plant Conservation Alliance; and

2           (3) the Plant Materials Centers of the Natural  
3 Resources Conservation Service.

4       (e) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority to  
5 carry out the pilot program under subsection (b) termi-  
6 nates on the date that is 5 years after the date on which  
7 the pilot program is established under that subsection.

8       (f) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date  
9 on which the authority to carry out the pilot program ter-  
10 minates under subsection (e), the Secretary shall submit  
11 to Congress a report describing—

12           (1) the results of the pilot program carried out  
13 under subsection (b); and

14           (2) the cost-effectiveness of using native plants  
15 in units of the National Park System and public  
16 land administered by the Bureau of Land Manage-  
17 ment.

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