

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4627

To increase access to artificial intelligence through programs of the
Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 21, 2026

Mr. BUDD (for himself, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. BANKS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. ROUNDS, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To increase access to artificial intelligence through programs
of the Department of Agriculture, 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 “Fostering Agricultural
5 Research and Modernization through Artificial Intel-
6 ligence Act of 2026” or the “FARM AI Act of 2026”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

8 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

9 (1) artificial intelligence has the potential—

1 (A) to improve farm productivity and secu-
2 rity;

3 (B) to enhance decision-making in crop
4 and animal systems management;

5 (C) to develop precision technologies for
6 the agriculture industry;

7 (D) to reduce resource use;

8 (E) to expand economic opportunities for
9 small, medium, and family-run farms; and

10 (F) to allow United States farmers to
11 outcompete international competitors;

12 (2) rural communities, agribusinesses, farmers,
13 and the food supply chain benefit from technical as-
14 sistance, education, and outreach to adopt artificial
15 intelligence technologies; and

16 (3) Federal guidance and coordination are
17 needed to accelerate the responsible adoption of arti-
18 ficial intelligence in agriculture.

19 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
20 gress that, to support technology development, adoption,
21 and workforce training, the Secretary of Agriculture
22 should increase access to artificial intelligence through—

23 (1) the programs and outreach efforts of the
24 Department of Agriculture; and

1 (2) collaboration with the National Institute of
 2 Standards and Technology.

3 **SEC. 3. INCLUSION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AS PRI-**
 4 **ORITY AREA IN DEPARTMENT OF AGRI-**
 5 **CULTURE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION PRO-**
 6 **GRAMS.**

7 (a) AFRI.—Subsection (b)(2) of the Competitive,
 8 Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C.
 9 3157(b)(2)) is amended—

10 (1) in subparagraph (E)—

11 (A) in clause (iv), by striking “and” at the
 12 end;

13 (B) in clause (v), by striking the period at
 14 the end and inserting “; and”; and

15 (C) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(vi) research, development, and im-
 17 plementation of artificial intelligence to en-
 18 hance precision agriculture, farm manage-
 19 ment, crop production, resource manage-
 20 ment, cybersecurity, and weather moni-
 21 toring.”; and

22 (2) by adding at the end the following:

23 “(G) WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND
 24 TECHNICAL TRAINING.—Workforce development
 25 and technical training, including—

1 “(i) implementation of computing sys-
 2 tems and artificial intelligence;
 3 “(ii) precision agriculture adoption
 4 and usage; and
 5 “(iii) machine maintenance.”.

6 (b) AgARDA.—Section 1473H(b) of the National
 7 Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy
 8 Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3319k(b)) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (2)—

10 (A) in subparagraph (B)—

11 (i) by inserting “and deployment”
 12 after “development”; and

13 (ii) by inserting “artificial intelligence
 14 systems,” after “research tools,”; and

15 (B) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “ar-
 16 tificial intelligence systems,” after “research
 17 tools,”; and

18 (2) in paragraph (5)—

19 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “or”
 20 at the end;

21 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the
 22 period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

23 (C) by adding at the end the following:

24 “(C) develop artificial intelligence solutions
 25 for farmers or ranchers.”.

1 (c) COOPERATIVE EXTENSION.—Section 2 of the Act
 2 of May 18, 1914 (38 Stat. 373, chapter 79; 7 U.S.C. 342),
 3 is amended by inserting “including artificial intelligence
 4 systems and data-driven agricultural management tools,
 5 and providing outreach and education to producers and
 6 rural communities on the adoption and use of such tech-
 7 nologies,” after “practices or technologies in agriculture,”.

8 (d) GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS FOR FOOD AND AG-
 9 RICULTURAL SCIENCES EDUCATION.—Section 1417 of the
 10 National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching
 11 Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3152) is amended—

12 (1) in subsection (b)—

13 (A) in paragraph (5), by striking “and” at
 14 the end;

15 (B) in paragraph (6), by striking the pe-
 16 riod at the end and inserting “; and”; and

17 (C) by adding at the end the following:

18 “(7) to design and implement workforce devel-
 19 opment and technical training programs for rural
 20 communities to teach—

21 “(A) the implementation of computing sys-
 22 tems and artificial intelligence;

23 “(B) precision agriculture adoption and
 24 usage; and

25 “(C) machine maintenance.”; and

1 (2) in subsection (c)—

2 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” at
3 the end;

4 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking the pe-
5 riod at the end and inserting “; and”; and

6 (C) by adding at the end the following:

7 “(3) applications for teaching enhancement
8 projects that focus on workforce development and
9 technical assistance education programs to develop
10 and implement artificial intelligence systems and
11 precision agriculture technologies.”.

12 **SEC. 4. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AGRICULTURE ADVI-**
13 **SOR.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle C of the Department of
15 Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6941
16 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

17 **“SEC. 237. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AGRICULTURE ADVI-**
18 **SOR.**

19 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

20 “(1) ADVISOR.—The term ‘Advisor’ means the
21 Artificial Intelligence Agriculture Advisor described
22 in subsection (b).

23 “(2) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means—

24 “(A) each of the several States of the
25 United States;

1 “(B) the District of Columbia; and

2 “(C) any territory of the United States.

3 “(b) ADVISOR.—The Secretary shall designate a sen-
4 ior official from the National Institute of Food and Agri-
5 culture to serve as the Artificial Intelligence Agriculture
6 Advisor.

7 “(c) DUTIES.—The Advisor shall—

8 “(1) encourage and promote, in each State, the
9 adoption and use of artificial intelligence and digital
10 agriculture technologies, including—

11 “(A) technical assistance and outreach;

12 “(B) workforce training and education;

13 “(C) adoption of precision agriculture
14 tools;

15 “(D) data-driven farm management prac-
16 tices;

17 “(E) animal system management practices;

18 “(F) support for small farm enterprises in
19 using artificial intelligence; and

20 “(G) any other activity relating to artificial
21 intelligence in agriculture, as determined by the
22 Secretary; and

23 “(2) in collaboration with the National Institute
24 of Standards and Technology, develop and imple-

1 ment national artificial intelligence standards for the
2 agriculture sector.

3 “(d) MEANS OF ACHIEVING.—In carrying out sub-
4 section (c), the Advisor shall—

5 “(1) coordinate with the agencies and officials
6 of the Department;

7 “(2) advise the Secretary on issues relating to
8 artificial intelligence in agriculture;

9 “(3) ensure that the programs of the Depart-
10 ment are updated to address best practices in artifi-
11 cial intelligence adoption;

12 “(4) conduct outreach to stakeholders and co-
13 ordinate external partnerships to share best prac-
14 tices and offer technical assistance to agricultural
15 producers;

16 “(5) facilitate interagency program coordination
17 and develop tools for promoting artificial intelligence
18 adoption;

19 “(6) coordinate networks of agricultural pro-
20 ducers using artificial intelligence; and

21 “(7) collaborate with the National Institute of
22 Standards and Technology and other Federal agen-
23 cies, as needed.”.

24 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 296(b) of
25 the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of

1 1994 (7 U.S.C. 7014(b)) is amended by adding at the end
2 the following:

3 “(11) The authority of the Secretary to carry
4 out section 237.”.

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