

tempore (Mr. ONDER) at 4 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

# ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

# UNITED STATES GRAIN STANDARDS REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4550) to reauthorize the United States Grain Standards Act, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4550

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

## SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "United States Grain Standards Reauthorization Act of 2025".

## SEC. 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY.

Section 2(b) of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 74(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) in paragraph (3)(F), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(4) that the Secretary shall prioritize the adoption of improved grain grading technology to provide for efficient, accurate, and consistent grading of grain."

## SEC. 3. OFFICIAL INSPECTION AUTHORITY AND FUNDING.

Section 7 of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 79) is amended—

(1) in subsection (e), by adding at the end the following:

"(5) The Secretary may provide that domestic non-export grain loaded or unloaded into or out of a rail car, barge, truck, or other container, at an export port location, shall be inspected in the manner provided in this subsection or subsection (f), as the Secretary determines will best meet the objectives of this Act.";

(2) in subsection (g)(2), by striking "fund created" and inserting "trust fund created"; and

(3) in subsection (j)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(C), by striking "fund which" and inserting "trust fund which";

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking "fund created" and inserting "trust fund created"; and

(ii) by striking "credited to the fund" and inserting "credited to the trust fund account"; and

(C) in paragraph (5), by striking "2025" and inserting "2030".

## SEC. 4. WEIGHING AUTHORITY.

Section 7A of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 79a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(2), by striking "State agency" and inserting "State agency or official agency"; and

(2) in subsection (1)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(C), by striking "fund created" and inserting "trust fund created";

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking "fund created" and inserting "trust fund created"; and

(C) in paragraph (4), by striking "2025" and inserting "2030".

## SEC. 5. TESTING OF EQUIPMENT.

Section 7B(a) of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 79b(a)) is amended by striking "fund created" and inserting "trust fund created".

## SEC. 6. LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPERVISORY COSTS.

Section 7D of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 79d) is amended—

(1) by striking "activities" and inserting "activities, equipment, and development of technology"; and

(2) by striking "2025" and inserting "2030".

## SEC. 7. GENERAL AUTHORITIES.

Section 16 of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 87e) is amended—

(1) in subsection (e), by striking "Department of Agriculture" and inserting "Department of Agriculture and official agencies"; and

(2) in subsection (j), by striking "fund created" and inserting "trust fund created".

## SEC. 8. REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS.

Section 17A(e) of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 87f-1(e)) is amended by striking "fund described" and inserting "trust fund described".

## SEC. 9. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

Section 17B(e) of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 87f-2(e)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "The Secretary may, to the extent determined appropriate by the Secretary" and inserting "On December 1 of each year, the Secretary shall";

(2) in paragraph (1), by striking "and" at the end;

(3) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(4) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

"(2) an analysis of any and all existing deficiencies in the technology evaluation process and recommendations to advance the efficiency, accuracy, and consistency of grain grading and minimize costs imposed on the Federal Government and the grain export industry; and"

## SEC. 10. FUNDING.

Section 19 of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 87h) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking "2021 through 2025" and inserting "2026 through 2030"; and

(2) in subsection (b)(1)(A), by striking "other services" and inserting "other services (excluding grading services performed under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946)".

## SEC. 11. ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Section 21 of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 87j) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the following: "Notwithstanding the previous sentence, if the Secretary does not make a new appointment upon the completion of a term of an existing member (including such existing member's second successive term), then such existing member shall continue to serve until such appointment is made."; and

(2) in subsection (e), by striking "2025" and inserting "2030".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) and the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. DAVIDS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on behalf of the United States Grain Standards Reauthorization Act of 2025, a piece of legislation that is more than 100 years old and plays a vital role in preserving safety, quality, and a standard of excellence for the American grain industry.

If we want America to maintain its status as the safest, most abundant grain supply in the world, reauthorization of this act before several of its key provisions expire at the end of September is absolutely essential.

Originally passed in 1916, the United States Grain Standards Act gave the Federal Government the authority to set official marketing standards for grains and oilseeds. It also provided a framework for inspection and weighing procedures.

Because of the United States Grain Standards Act, the American grain industry has developed an enduring reputation for consistency and quality in the global market.

This vital tool plays a critical role in reinforcing the strength of our agriculture supply chain. It ensures that farmers, whether they grow corn, sorghum, soybeans, or any other grain, receive a fair price that reflects the quality of their crop. It allows buyers of U.S. grain to feel confident in the safety and quality of the products they need.

The United States Grain Standards Act also supports U.S. trade, a crucial part of the American farm economy. In 2024, the U.S. exported more than \$26 billion of American grains. In just my home State of Pennsylvania alone, almost \$100 million of corn and barley are exported every year.

These exports make a difference to the bottom line for family farmers in Pennsylvania and across our country.

American agriculture has certainly changed since 1916, and the United States Grain Standards Act continues to evolve with the times. The 2025 reauthorization of the act includes key improvements that will help grain standards continue to modernize while emphasizing cost-effectiveness from both government and industry.

This legislation promotes technological innovation by advancing grain grading tools to improve accuracy, efficiency, and consistency while giving USDA the flexibility to invest in critical technological upgrades. Annual reports on technological challenges and

solutions ensure Congress remains informed and transparency is maintained.

This bill will improve long-term financial management by allowing user fees to be deposited into interest-bearing trust funds. It also grants the Secretary authority to permit domestic grain inspection at export ports, facilitating faster, more flexible service where needed. Finally, it ensures that advisory committee members may continue serving until replacements are appointed, preserving expertise and continuity.

While much of the act is permanently authorized, such as mandatory inspection and weighing of exported grain, there are important provisions set to expire at the end of this month. A lapse in authorization would disrupt the current grain inspection and weighing process, cost the farm economy more than \$70 million a day, and create serious consequences for American family farms, our supply chain, and our international trading partners. These disruptions are entirely avoidable.

We are doing our farmers and export partners a disservice if we don't do our jobs and get this critical piece of legislation across the finish line. Mr. Speaker, I hope you will join me in voting "yes" for the United States Grain Standards Reauthorization Act of 2025.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, first, I thank Chairman THOMPSON, Ranking Member CRAIG, and General Farm Commodities, Risk Management, and Credit Subcommittee Chairman SCOTT for their leadership on this bipartisan bill.

The United States Grain Standards Reauthorization Act of 2025 strengthens the United States Department of Agriculture's ability to improve grain grading technologies through flexibilities to pursue modernization. Using new technologies to improve grain grading is an opportunity to make the process more accurate, efficient, and consistent.

Additionally, the bill reauthorizes key USDA authorities for the grain inspection and grading system and clarifies existing law.

Reauthorizing the United States Grain Standards Act is critical for farmers and for the rest of the agricultural supply chain.

The inspections provided by the Federal Grain Inspection Service define and classify grains, as well as assign grades to specify weight and quality requirements.

These inspections provide a gold standard assurance backed by the U.S. Federal Government to both grain buyers and grain sellers.

I proudly represent Kansas, often called the Wheat State, where agriculture plays a critical role in our State's economy.

Kansas farmers feed not just the Nation but the entire world. In 2023 alone,

Kansas farmers exported \$5.2 billion in agricultural products around the world. Grain farmers in Kansas and across the country participate in a very competitive global market. Foreign grain buyers should be confident in the process we have in place to ensure that our exports are adequately inspected.

The bipartisan United States Grain Standards Reauthorization Act of 2025 is critical for the global grain trade. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, first, I thank the gentlewoman from the Wheat State for her leadership on the Agriculture Committee and on this topic in particular.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT), chairman of the General Farm Commodities, Risk Management, and Credit Subcommittee and vice chair of the full Agriculture Committee.

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Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to speak in support of H.R. 4550. This legislation reauthorizes the United States Grain Standards Act, a cornerstone of American agriculture and trade for nearly a century.

Mr. Speaker, I don't want to go any further without first thanking Chairman THOMPSON for his work, Ranking Member CRAIG for her work, and the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. DAVIDS) for her work on this piece of legislation.

As chairman of the General Farm Commodities, Risk Management, and Credit Subcommittee, I, too, have seen firsthand the importance of this law. Earlier this year, we held a hearing with industry stakeholders to discuss the act's significance and explore ways to foster innovation.

The provisions in this bill ensure transparency, market confidence, and fair price discovery, all of which are essential to a functioning agricultural market.

H.R. 4550 not only reauthorizes this critical legislation, but also advances grain grading technology to modernize inspection and weighing services. These updates will help the industry adopt new technologies, improve the accuracy and the efficiency of grain standards, and keep American agriculture competitive in a global market.

Allowing this law's authority to lapse would have severe consequences, costing our farm economy over \$70 million a day and disrupting supply chains and international trade partnerships.

Exports of grain and grain products in my home State of Georgia contribute over \$900 million annually in economic output. The United States exports over \$26 billion of grain on an annual basis. These numbers under-

score the need for uninterrupted, reliable, and cost-effective inspection services.

H.R. 4550 protects these essential services and helps maintain the United States' reputation as the global standard in grain production.

I was proud to work with Ranking Member DAVIDS on the General Farm Commodities, Risk Management, and Credit Subcommittee to hold a hearing that laid the groundwork for this reauthorization.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support this bipartisan legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support its final passage.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman THOMPSON, Ranking Member CRAIG, and Chairman SCOTT for their work on this bipartisan bill.

As a member of the House Committee on Agriculture, I have made it a priority to support family farmers and strengthen our supply chains because I know how vital they are to rural economies, to our global competitiveness, and to grocery costs.

To that end, the United States Grain Standards Reauthorization Act of 2025 is so important to ensuring the continuity and strength of our grain grading and inspection system. This is critical to farmers in Kansas and folks in the grain industry across the country.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bipartisan bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. DAVIDS) for her passionate work on behalf of America's number one industry, agriculture, and on this specific piece of legislation.

I thank my good friend from Georgia (Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT) for his leadership as subcommittee chair with the area of jurisdiction from which this bill comes.

Mr. Speaker, it is not too often we have the opportunity to take a piece of legislation that is over 100 years old in its origin and modernize it into the 21st century. That is what we have done with the technological advancements and the transparency.

I am very proud of the work that our Agriculture Committee has done. I certainly would encourage a "yes" vote on this piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, every summer, grains planted by hardworking Minnesotans cover around 40 percent of my district.

U.S. grain standards are a key component of foreign trade and the promotion of American agricultural exports. The inspections and certifications done by the Federal Grain Inspection Service, states and private agencies provide foreign importers with certainty regarding the quality of the grain bought from U.S. farmers.

With parts of the existing U.S. Grain Standards Act set to expire on September 30, 2025,

I am proud to be the lead Democratic cosponsor to reauthorize and improve this law.

This bill before reauthorizes annual appropriations for standard development and maintenance, USDA's authority to collect fees for supervision of inspections and weighing, an administrative/supervisory cost cap and the Grain Inspection Advisory Committee. All important components of the existing law.

It also makes key improvements, not least of all directing the USDA to prioritize the modernization of grain grading technologies. The U.S. grain inspection system is known around the world for quality and reliability. By focusing USDA's attention on modernization, we can continue to hold our place as the world's gold standard in grain inspection.

Reauthorizing the U.S. Grain Standards Act is important for our farmers and their customers, and I urge all my colleagues to support this legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4550.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### MENTAL HEALTH IN AVIATION ACT OF 2025

Mr. BARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2591) to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to revise regulations for certain individuals carrying out aviation activities who disclose a mental health diagnosis or condition, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2591

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

*This Act may be cited as the "Mental Health in Aviation Act of 2025".*

#### SEC. 2. REGULATIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS CARRYING OUT AVIATION ACTIVITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall update regulations, including in part 67 of title 14 of Code of Federal Regulations, as appropriate, to encourage individuals to—

(1) seek help for mental health conditions or symptoms of mental health conditions; and

(2) disclose conditions or symptoms described in paragraph (1).

(b) CONSULTATION; REPORT REQUIREMENTS.—Section 411(d) of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024 (49 U.S.C. 44703 note(d)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4)—

(A) in subparagraph (A) by striking "and" at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (B) by striking "and" at the end;

(C) in subparagraph (C) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

"(D) a review and evaluation of any recommendations reached by the National Transportation Safety Board related to aviation workforce mental health; and

"(E) a description of relevant clinical studies, research, diagnostic manuals, and protocols used by the licensed professionals as of the date of enactment of this Act."; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(5) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this subsection, the task group shall consult with relevant stakeholders from the aviation and medical communities, as necessary, including—

"(A) the certified exclusive bargaining representatives of air traffic controllers of the Administration certified under section 7111 of title 5, United States Code;

"(B) organizations representing certified collective bargaining representatives of airline pilots;

"(C) aviation medical examiners, as described in section 183.21 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations; and

"(D) any other stakeholder determined relevant by the task group, including any stakeholders described in paragraph (3)(B)."

(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the submission of the report required under section 411(f) of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024 (49 U.S.C. 44703 note), the Administrator shall take such actions as are necessary to implement the mental health-related recommendations of such report.

(2) JUSTIFICATION.—If the Administrator decides not to implement any of the recommendations described in paragraph (1), the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress the justification for such decision.

#### SEC. 3. ANNUAL REVIEW OF MENTAL HEALTH SPECIAL ISSUANCE PROCESS.

The Administrator shall conduct an annual review, and update, as appropriate, the applicable regulations, policies, orders, and guidance on mental health-related special issuance for pilots and air traffic controllers to—

(1) reclassify and approve additional medications that may be safely prescribed to airmen to treat mental health conditions;

(2) improve mental health knowledge and training for aviation medical examiners;

(3) if the Administrator determines appropriate, delegate additional authority to aviation medical examiners consistent with the recommendation of the Mental Health Aviation Rulemaking Committee described in section 5; and

(4) improve the special issuance process for pilots and air traffic controllers.

#### SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION FOR ADDITIONAL AVIATION MEDICAL EXAMINERS.

Of the amounts made available pursuant to section 106(k)(1) of title 49, United States Code, the Administrator shall set aside \$13,740,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2028 to—

(1) recruit, select, train, and delegate the necessary authorities to additional aviation medical examiners and human intervention motivation study aviation medical examiners, including those who are psychiatrists;

(2) expand capacity to provide oversight of aviation medical examiners and clear the backlog of special issuance requests and cases awaiting review at the Office of Aerospace Medicine; and

(3) support any other related activities, as the Administrator determines appropriate.

#### SEC. 5. IMPLEMENTATION OF AVIATION RULEMAKING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall implement, to the greatest extent practicable, the recommendations of the Mental Health and Aviation Medical Clearances Aviation Rulemaking Committee which were submitted to the Administrator on April 1, 2024.

(b) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Administrator shall consult with the parties described in section 411(d)(5) of the

FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024 (as added by this Act).

(c) JUSTIFICATION.—If the Administrator decides not to implement any of the recommendations described in subsection (a), the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress the justification for such decision.

#### SEC. 6. PUBLIC INFORMATION CAMPAIGN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Of the amounts made available under section 106(k)(1) of title 49, United States Code, the Administrator shall set aside \$1,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2028 for a public information campaign or similar public education efforts to destigmatize individuals in (or interested in joining) the aviation industry who seek mental health care, to broaden awareness of available supportive services, and establish trust with pilots and air traffic controllers.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the Administrator creates the public information campaign described in subsection (a), the Administrator shall submit to appropriate committees of Congress a report describing the actions taken to develop such campaign and the plans for implementation.

#### SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term "appropriate committees of Congress" means—

(A) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

(2) SPECIAL ISSUANCE.—The term "special issuance" has the meaning given the term in section 67.401 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BARRETT) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. FIGURES) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the record on H.R. 2591, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mr. BARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2591, the Mental Health in Aviation Act.

I thank Mr. CASTEN, Mr. STAUBER, Ranking Member LARSEN, and Mr. MANN for their work on this legislation and leadership on this important issue.

Mr. Speaker, one in four Americans today deal with mental health challenges over the course of their lifetime. We need to make sure pilots get the help they need and still keep flying.

This legislation is intended to reduce the barriers preventing pilots, air traffic controllers, and other aviation professionals from reporting and seeking mental health care.

The bill builds on the bipartisan work of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee from last Congress to hold the Federal Aviation Administration accountable to Congress