

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3438

To authorize the State committees appointed to carry out agricultural credit programs under the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to permit the emergency commercial use of land enrolled in the conservation reserve program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 6, 2001

Mr. SIMPSON (for himself, Mr. OTTER, and Mr. REHBERG) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To authorize the State committees appointed to carry out agricultural credit programs under the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to permit the emergency commercial use of land enrolled in the conservation reserve program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. AUTHORITY OF STATE COMMITTEES TO PER-**
2 **MIT THE EMERGENCY COMMERCIAL USE OF**
3 **LAND ENROLLED IN THE CONSERVATION RE-**
4 **SERVE PROGRAM.**

5 Section 1232(a)(7) of the Food Security Act of 1985
6 (16 U.S.C. 3832(a)(7)) is amended—

7 (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),
8 by striking “except that the Secretary—” and in-
9 serting “except that—”;

10 (2) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) and
11 (C) as subparagraphs (C) and (D), respectively;

12 (3) by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting
13 the following:

14 “(A) the State committee appointed under
15 section 8(a)(5)(A) of the Soil Conservation and
16 Domestic Allotment Act of the State in which
17 land subject to the contract is located may per-
18 mit harvesting or grazing or other commercial
19 use of the forage on the land in response to a
20 drought, wildfire, flooding, or other similar
21 emergency;

22 “(B) the Secretary may permit limited
23 grazing on the land where the grazing is inci-
24 dental to the gleaning of crop residues on the
25 fields in which the land is located and occurs—

1 “(i) in the case of land other than eli-
2 gible acreage enrolled under section
3 1231(h) of this Act, during the 7-month
4 period in which grazing of conserving use
5 acreage is allowed in a State under the Ag-
6 ricultural Act of 1949 or after the pro-
7 ducer harvests the grain crop of the sur-
8 rounding field, for a reduction in rental
9 payment commensurate with the limited
10 economic value of the incidental grazing;
11 and

12 “(ii) in the case of such eligible acre-
13 age, at any time other than during the pe-
14 riod beginning May 1 and ending August
15 1 of each year, for a reduction in rental
16 payment commensurate with the limited
17 economic value of the incidental grazing;”;
18 and

19 (4) in subparagraph (C) (as so redesignated)—

20 (A) by inserting “the Secretary” before
21 “shall approve”; and

22 (B) by striking the period and inserting
23 “; and”.

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