

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5310

To provide emergency livestock assistance and emergency crop loss assistance
to agricultural producers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 26, 2002

Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. OSBORNE, Mr. REHBERG, Mr. BEREUTER, Mr. POMEROY, Mr. LUCAS of Oklahoma, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. TERRY, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. GIBBONS, Mrs. CUBIN, and Mr. MCINNIS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To provide emergency livestock assistance and emergency
crop loss assistance to agricultural producers.

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 “Emergency Farmer
5 and Rancher Assistance Act of 2002”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Under title I of the Food Security and
9 Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–

1 171), the majority of projected commodity program
2 spending depends on market prices for the major ag-
3 ricultural commodities.

4 (2) Changes in actual market prices for these
5 commodities can significantly alter the costs in-
6 curred by the Commodity Credit Corporation to fund
7 these commodity programs.

8 (3) According to a recent comparison of the
9 July 2002 Food and Agriculture Policy Research In-
10 stitute baseline estimate and actual mid-July market
11 prices, recent increases in market prices for certain
12 agricultural commodities are projected to reduce
13 commodity program costs for the 2002 crop year by
14 more than \$6,000,000,000.

15 (4) As a result of these commodity program
16 cost savings, Commodity Credit Corporation funds
17 are available to provide direct assistance to Amer-
18 ican farmers and ranchers who suffered 2001 crop
19 year losses, or are suffering 2002 crop year losses,
20 due to natural disasters.

21 (5) Crop insurance is an important risk man-
22 agement tool that is available to American farmers
23 and ranchers and should be fully utilized in order to
24 limit financial exposure to weather-related crop
25 losses.

1 (b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to direct
2 the Secretary of Agriculture to use unspent loan deficiency
3 payment and counter-cyclical payment funds to provide
4 emergency livestock assistance and emergency crop loss
5 assistance to American farmers and ranchers who suffered
6 2001 crop year losses, or are suffering 2002 crop year
7 losses, due to natural disasters.

8 **SEC. 3. LIVESTOCK ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

9 (a) AVAILABILITY.—Subject to section 5, the Sec-
10 retary of Agriculture shall use the funds, facilities, and
11 authorities of the Commodity Credit Corporation to make
12 and administer payments for livestock losses to producers
13 for 2001 or 2002 losses in a county that has received an
14 emergency designation by the President or the Secretary
15 in calendar year 2001 or 2002. The Secretary may reserve
16 for the American Indian Livestock Feed Program a por-
17 tion of the funds available to carry out this section.

18 (b) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall make as-
19 sistance available under this section in the same manner
20 as provided under section 806 of the Agriculture, Rural
21 Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Re-
22 lated Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 (Public Law
23 106–387; 114 Stat. 1549A–51).

1 **SEC. 4. CROP LOSS ASSISTANCE.**

2 (a) AVAILABILITY.—Subject to section 5, the Sec-
3 retary of Agriculture shall use the funds, facilities, and
4 authorities of the Commodity Credit Corporation to make
5 emergency financial assistance available to producers on
6 a farm that have incurred qualifying crop losses for the
7 2001 or 2002 crop due to damaging weather or related
8 condition, as determined by the Secretary.

9 (b) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall make as-
10 sistance available under this section in the same manner
11 as provided under section 815 of the Agriculture, Rural
12 Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Re-
13 lated Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 (Public Law
14 106–387; 114 Stat. 1549A–55), including using the same
15 loss thresholds for the quantity, quality, and economic
16 losses as were used in administering that section.

17 **SEC. 5. SOURCE OF FUNDING.**

18 (a) ESTIMATION OF FARM PROGRAM SAVINGS.—The
19 Secretary of Agriculture shall estimate the savings to the
20 Commodity Credit Corporation to be derived during the
21 2002 crop year as a result of the lower-than-anticipated
22 costs of the marketing loan program and counter-cyclical
23 payment program of the Farm Security and Rural Invest-
24 ment Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–171).

25 (b) USE OF SAVINGS.—An amount of Commodity
26 Credit Corporation funds equal to the savings estimated

- 1 under subsection (a) shall be available to the Secretary
- 2 to carry out sections 3 and 4.

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