

113TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 879

To support State and tribal government efforts to promote research and education related to maple syrup production, natural resource sustainability in the maple syrup industry, market promotion of maple products, and greater access to lands containing maple trees for maple-sugaring activities, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 7, 2013

Mr. SCHUMER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

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## A BILL

To support State and tribal government efforts to promote research and education related to maple syrup production, natural resource sustainability in the maple syrup industry, market promotion of maple products, and greater access to lands containing maple trees for maple-sugaring activities, 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 “Maple Tapping Access  
5 Program Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SUPPORT FOR STATE AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENT**  
2 **EFFORTS TO PROMOTE DOMESTIC MAPLE**  
3 **SYRUP INDUSTRY.**

4 (a) DEFINITION OF MAPLE SUGARING.—In this sec-  
5 tion, the term “maple-sugaring” means the collection of  
6 sap from any species of tree in the genus *Acer* for the  
7 purpose of boiling to produce food.

8 (b) GRANTS AUTHORIZED; AUTHORIZED ACTIVI-  
9 TIES.—The Secretary of Agriculture may make grants to  
10 States and tribal governments to support their efforts to  
11 promote the domestic maple syrup industry through the  
12 following activities:

13 (1) Promotion of research and education related  
14 to maple syrup production.

15 (2) Promotion of natural resource sustainability  
16 in the maple syrup industry.

17 (3) Market promotion for maple syrup and  
18 maple-sap products.

19 (4) Encouragement of owners and operators of  
20 privately held land containing species of tree in the  
21 genus *Acer*—

22 (A) to initiate or expand maple-sugaring  
23 activities on the land; or

24 (B) to voluntarily make the land available,  
25 including by lease or other means, for access by  
26 the public for maple-sugaring activities.

1 (c) APPLICATIONS.—In submitting an application for  
2 a grant under this section, a State or tribal government  
3 shall include—

4 (1) a description of the activities to be sup-  
5 ported using the grant funds;

6 (2) a description of the benefits that the State  
7 or tribal government intends to achieve as a result  
8 of engaging in such activities; and

9 (3) an estimate of the increase in maple-sug-  
10 aring activities or maple syrup production that the  
11 State or tribal government anticipates will occur as  
12 a result of engaging in such activities.

13 (d) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—Nothing in  
14 this section preempts a State or tribal government law,  
15 including any State or tribal government liability law.

16 (e) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Agriculture  
17 shall promulgate such regulations as are necessary to  
18 carry out this section.

19 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
20 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
21 \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2017.

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