

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2133

To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into alternative funding arrangements with certain community irrigation associations and community land grants.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 15, 2017

Mr. UDALL (for himself and Mr. HEINRICH) 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 amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into alternative funding arrangements with certain community irrigation associations and community land grants.

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 “Providing Land Grants  
5 and Acequias Conservation and Environmental Services  
6 Act” or the “PLACES Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ALTERNATIVE FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR COM-**  
2 **MUNITY IRRIGATION ASSOCIATIONS AND**  
3 **COMMUNITY LAND GRANTS.**

4 Section 1244 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16  
5 U.S.C. 3844) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
6 lowing:

7 “(m) ALTERNATIVE FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR  
8 COMMUNITY IRRIGATION ASSOCIATIONS AND COMMUNITY  
9 LAND GRANTS.—

10 “(1) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In  
11 this subsection, the term ‘eligible entity’ means an  
12 entity that, as determined by the Secretary—

13 “(A) is comprised of members who are pro-  
14 ducers that are eligible for payments under the  
15 environmental quality incentives program estab-  
16 lished under chapter 4 of subtitle D; and

17 “(B) is a local governmental entity that  
18 does not have the authority to impose taxes or  
19 levies.

20 “(2) ALTERNATIVE FUNDING ARRANGE-  
21 MENTS.—The Secretary may enter into an alter-  
22 native funding arrangement under any conservation  
23 program administered by the Secretary with an eligi-  
24 ble entity if the Secretary determines that—

1           “(A) the goals and objectives of the appli-  
2           cable program will be met by the arrangement;  
3           and

4           “(B) statutory limitations regarding con-  
5           tracts with individual producers will not be ex-  
6           ceeded by any member of the eligible entity.

7           “(3) TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSIST-  
8           ANCE.—The Secretary may provide technical and  
9           administrative assistance, as mutually agreed by the  
10          parties, under an alternative funding arrangement  
11          entered into under paragraph (2).”.

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