

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7690

To establish a payment program for unexpected loss of markets and revenues to timber harvesting and timber hauling businesses due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 20, 2020

Mr. ROUZER (for himself and Mr. GOLDEN) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

---

## A BILL

To establish a payment program for unexpected loss of markets and revenues to timber harvesting and timber hauling businesses due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 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. PAYMENT PROGRAM FOR TIMBER HARVESTING**

4 **AND TIMBER HAULING BUSINESSES.**

5 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

6 (1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-  
7 ty” means any timber harvesting business or timber

1       hauling business that harvested or hauled unrefined  
2       timber products in calendar year 2019.

3           (2) GROSS REVENUE.—The term “gross rev-  
4       enue” means the gross revenue generated by an eli-  
5       gible entity from timber harvesting or timber haul-  
6       ing services within the normal range of operation of  
7       the eligible entity, as determined by the Secretary.

8           (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
9       the Secretary of Agriculture.

10       (b) PAYMENTS.—The Secretary shall make payments  
11       in accordance with this section to eligible entities that, as  
12       a result of the COVID–19 pandemic, experienced a loss  
13       of not less than 10 percent in gross revenue during the  
14       period beginning on January 1, 2020, and ending on July  
15       31, 2020, as compared to the gross revenue of the eligible  
16       entity during the same period in 2019.

17       (c) AMOUNT OF PAYMENT.—The amount of a pay-  
18       ment made to an eligible entity under subsection (b) shall  
19       be equal to 10 percent of the gross revenue of the eligible  
20       entity during the period beginning on January 1, 2019,  
21       and ending on July 31, 2019.

22       (d) ALLOWABLE USE.—The Secretary shall only  
23       make a payment under subsection (b) to an eligible entity  
24       that certifies to the Secretary that the payment will be  
25       used only for operating expenses.

1 (e) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date  
2 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to  
3 the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representa-  
4 tives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and  
5 Forestry of the Senate a report describing the payments  
6 made under this section, including—

7 (1) the identity of each recipient of a payment;

8 and

9 (2) the amount of each payment provided to  
10 each recipient described in paragraph (1).

11 (f) REGULATIONS.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise pro-  
13 vided in this section, not later than 30 days after  
14 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary  
15 shall prescribe such regulations as are necessary to  
16 carry out this section.

17 (2) PROCEDURE.—The promulgation of regula-  
18 tions under, and administration of, this section shall  
19 be made without regard to—

20 (A) the notice and comment provisions of  
21 section 553 of title 5, United States Code; and

22 (B) chapter 35 of title 44, United States  
23 Code (commonly known as the “Paperwork Re-  
24 duction Act”).

1       (g) FUNDING.—There are appropriated, out of any  
2 amounts in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such  
3 sums as are necessary to make payments to eligible enti-  
4 ties under this section.

○