

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8676

To reduce enteric methane emissions, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 11, 2024

Ms. CROCKETT (for herself and Mr. MOLINARO) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To reduce enteric methane emissions, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Enteric Methane Innovation Tools for Lower Emissions
6 and Sustainable Stock Act of 2024” or the “EMIT LESS
7 Act of 2024”.

8 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
9 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definition of Secretary.

TITLE I—ENABLING ENTERIC METHANE RESEARCH

Sec. 101. Creation of enteric methane product and practice testing capacity through the Agricultural Research Service.

Sec. 102. Training programs for enteric methane livestock emissions.

TITLE II—ON-FARM ENTERIC METHANE EMISSION REDUCTIONS

Sec. 201. On-farm conservation innovation trials.

Sec. 202. Review of conservation practice standards.

Sec. 203. Environmental quality incentives program payments.

Sec. 204. Conservation Stewardship Program payments.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF SECRETARY.**

2 In this Act, the term “Secretary” means the Sec-
3 retary of Agriculture.

4 **TITLE I—ENABLING ENTERIC** 5 **METHANE RESEARCH**

6 **SEC. 101. CREATION OF ENTERIC METHANE PRODUCT AND** 7 **PRACTICE TESTING CAPACITY THROUGH THE** 8 **AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through the
10 Administrator of the Agricultural Research Service,
11 shall—

12 (1) establish and operate laboratory and testing
13 facilities to conduct studies to enhance the under-
14 standing of baseline enteric methane emissions and
15 the safety and efficacy of enteric methane-mitigating
16 products and practices;

17 (2) develop the ongoing capacity of personnel of
18 the Agricultural Research Service with expertise in
19 conducting the studies described in paragraph (1);
20 and

21 (3) regularly assess—

1 (A) baseline enteric methane emissions;

2 (B) the impacts of enteric methane produc-
3 tion on animal productivity and animal health
4 and welfare; and

5 (C) the impacts of enteric methane-miti-
6 gating products and practices on greenhouse
7 gas emissions, animal productivity, and animal
8 health and welfare.

9 (b) ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary, acting through the
10 Administrator of the Agricultural Research Service, may
11 use amounts made available to carry out this section, in
12 accordance with subsection (a)—

13 (1) to construct federally owned testing facili-
14 ties;

15 (2) to purchase assessment technologies;

16 (3) to retrofit or renovate existing facilities; and

17 (4) to contract with independent or academic
18 facilities to conduct research.

19 **SEC. 102. TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR ENTERIC METHANE**
20 **LIVESTOCK EMISSIONS.**

21 Title IV of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and
22 Education Reform Act of 1998 is amended by inserting
23 before section 404 (7 U.S.C. 7624) the following:

1 **“SEC. 401. TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR ENTERIC METHANE**
2 **LIVESTOCK EMISSIONS.**

3 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish or
4 expand at eligible institutions training programs relating
5 to, with respect to enteric methane emissions from live-
6 stock—

7 “(1) livestock management and nutrition;

8 “(2) greenhouse gas monitoring, verification,
9 and reporting technologies;

10 “(3) testing skills and capacity;

11 “(4) innovation; and

12 “(5) livestock health and welfare.

13 “(b) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—An institution eligible for a
15 training program under this section is an 1862 In-
16 stitution, an 1890 Institution, or a 1994 Institution.

17 “(2) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary shall es-
18 tablish or expand a training program under this sec-
19 tion at not less than one 1862 Institution, not less
20 than one 1890 Institution, and not less than one
21 1994 Institution.”.

1 **TITLE II—ON-FARM ENTERIC**
2 **METHANE EMISSION REDUC-**
3 **TIONS**

4 **SEC. 201. ON-FARM CONSERVATION INNOVATION TRIALS.**

5 Section 1240H(c) of the Food Security Act of 1985
6 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–8(c)) is amended—

7 (1) in paragraph (1)(B)(i)—

8 (A) in subclause (VI), by striking “and” at
9 the end;

10 (B) by redesignating subclause (VII) as
11 subclause (VIII); and

12 (C) by inserting after subclause (VI) the
13 following:

14 “(VII) livestock-related practices
15 that reduce greenhouse gas emissions,
16 including enteric methane emissions;
17 and”; and

18 (2) by adding at the end the following:

19 “(8) ENTERIC METHANE EMISSIONS STUD-
20 IES.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years
22 after the date of enactment of this paragraph,
23 the Secretary shall carry out one or more stud-
24 ies on changes in methane emissions and, if fea-
25 sible, economic outcomes, generated as a result

of livestock-related practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including enteric methane emissions.

“(B) REPORTS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate and the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives a report on the progress and results of the studies under subparagraph (A).”.

SEC. 202. REVIEW OF CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARDS.

Section 1242(h) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3842(h)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5) ENTERIC METHANE EMISSIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall—

“(A) complete a review of conservation practice standards in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this paragraph to consider any revisions to conservation practice standards, including for feed management, or new conservation practice standards that would

1 be appropriate to assist in reducing enteric
2 methane emissions;

3 “(B) revise appropriate conservation prac-
4 tice standards in effect on the day before the
5 date of enactment of this paragraph as nec-
6 essary to assist in reducing enteric methane
7 emissions; and

8 “(C) establish any appropriate new con-
9 servation practice standards to assist in reduc-
10 ing enteric methane emissions.”.

11 **SEC. 203. ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PRO-**
12 **GRAM PAYMENTS.**

13 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1240A of the Food Secu-
14 rity Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–1) is amended—

15 (1) in paragraph (3)—

16 (A) by inserting “management” after
17 “means a”; and

18 (B) by inserting “land or livestock man-
19 agement” after “set of”; and

20 (2) in paragraph (6)(A)(ii), by inserting “or
21 livestock” after “land”.

22 (b) PAYMENTS.—Section 1240B(d) of the Food Se-
23 curity Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–2(d)) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (3)(E), by inserting “, includ-
 2 ing greenhouse gas emission reductions” before the
 3 semicolon; and

4 (2) in paragraph (7)(A)—

5 (A) in clause (iii), by striking “or” at the
 6 end;

7 (B) by redesignating clause (iv) as clause
 8 (v); and

9 (C) by inserting after clause (iii) the fol-
 10 lowing:

11 “(iv) provides reduction of greenhouse
 12 gas emissions, including enteric methane
 13 emissions from livestock; or”.

14 **SEC. 204. CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM PAY-**
 15 **MENTS.**

16 (a) DEFINITION OF CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES.—
 17 Section 1240I(2)(B)(i) of the Food Security Act of 1985
 18 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–21(2)(B)(i)) is amended by inserting
 19 “livestock or” after “measures, and”.

20 (b) SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENTS FOR RESOURCE-
 21 CONSERVING CROP ROTATIONS, ADVANCED GRAZING
 22 MANAGEMENT, AND LIVESTOCK FEED MANAGEMENT.—
 23 Section 1240L(d) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16
 24 U.S.C. 3839aa–24(d)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking “AND
ADVANCED GRAZING MANAGEMENT” and inserting
“, ADVANCED GRAZING MANAGEMENT, AND LIVE-
STOCK FEED MANAGEMENT”;

(2) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (B)
and (C) as subparagraphs (C) and (D), respec-
tively; and

(B) by inserting after subparagraph (A)
the following:

“(B) LIVESTOCK FEED MANAGEMENT.—
The term ‘livestock feed management’ means
providing livestock with forage and feed that—

“(i) manipulates and controls the
quantity and quality of available nutrients,
feedstuffs, ingredients, or additives fed to
livestock;

“(ii) minimizes excess nutrients in
surface water and ground water by reduc-
ing the quantity of nitrogen, phosphorus,
sulfur, salts, or other nutrients excreted in
manure; or

“(iii) reduces emissions of ammonia,
odors, greenhouse gases, volatile organic

1 components, or dust from animal feeding
2 operations.”;

3 (3) in paragraph (2)—

4 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “or”
5 at the end;

6 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the
7 period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

8 (C) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(C) livestock feed management.”; and

10 (4) in paragraph (3), by inserting “, livestock
11 feed management,” after “crop rotations”.

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