

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2581

To extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act
of 2000.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 27, 2023

Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. MERKLEY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

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 “Secure Rural Schools
5 Reauthorization Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS AND COM-**
7 **MUNITY SELF-DETERMINATION ACT OF 2000.**

8 (a) SECURE PAYMENTS FOR STATES AND COUNTIES
9 CONTAINING FEDERAL LAND.—

1 (1) SECURE PAYMENTS.—Section 101 of the
 2 Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Deter-
 3 mination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7111) is amended,
 4 in subsections (a) and (b), by striking “2023” each
 5 place it appears and inserting “2026”.

6 (2) DISTRIBUTION OF PAYMENTS TO ELIGIBLE
 7 COUNTIES.—Section 103(d)(2) of the Secure Rural
 8 Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of
 9 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7113(d)(2)) is amended by striking
 10 “2023” and inserting “2026”.

11 (b) EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT SPE-
 12 CIAL PROJECTS ON FEDERAL LAND.—

13 (1) EXISTING ADVISORY COMMITTEES.—Section
 14 205(a)(4) of the Secure Rural Schools and Commu-
 15 nity Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C.
 16 7125(a)(4)) is amended by striking “December 20,
 17 2023” each place it appears and inserting “Decem-
 18 ber 20, 2026”.

19 (2) EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY.—Section 208
 20 of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-
 21 Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7128) is
 22 amended—

23 (A) in subsection (a), by striking “2025”
 24 and inserting “2028”; and

1 (B) in subsection (b), by striking “2026”
 2 and inserting “2029”.

3 (c) EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO EXPEND COUNTY
 4 FUNDS.—Section 305 of the Secure Rural Schools and
 5 Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C.
 6 7144) is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “2025” and
 8 inserting “2028”; and

9 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “2026” and
 10 inserting “2029”.

11 **SEC. 3. RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE PILOT PRO-**
 12 **GRAM EXTENSION.**

13 Section 205 of the Secure Rural Schools and Commu-
 14 nity Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7125) is
 15 amended by striking subsection (g) and inserting the fol-
 16 lowing:

17 “(g) PILOT PROGRAM FOR RESOURCE ADVISORY
 18 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS BY REGIONAL FOR-
 19 ESTERS.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary concerned
 21 shall establish and carry out a pilot program under
 22 which the Secretary concerned shall allow the re-
 23 gional forester with jurisdiction over a unit of Fed-
 24 eral land to appoint members of the resource advi-

1 sory committee for that unit, in accordance with the
2 applicable requirements of this section.

3 “(2) RESPONSIBILITIES OF REGIONAL FOR-
4 ESTER.—Before appointing a member of a resource
5 advisory committee under the pilot program under
6 this subsection, a regional forester shall conduct the
7 review and analysis that would otherwise be con-
8 ducted for an appointment to a resource advisory
9 committee if the pilot program was not in effect, in-
10 cluding any review and analysis with respect to civil
11 rights and budgetary requirements.

12 “(3) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this sub-
13 section relieves a regional forester or the Secretary
14 concerned from an obligation to comply with any re-
15 quirement relating to an appointment to a resource
16 advisory committee, including any requirement with
17 respect to civil rights or advertising a vacancy.

18 “(4) TERMINATION OF EFFECTIVENESS.—The
19 authority provided under this subsection terminates
20 on October 1, 2028.”.

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