

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1271

To amend the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 with respect to transitioning producers from the noninsured crop assistance program to the whole farm revenue insurance plan.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 3, 2025

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. MURPHY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To amend the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 with respect to transitioning producers from the noninsured crop assistance program to the whole farm revenue insurance plan.

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 “Save Our Small Farms
5 Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATION OF NON-**
 2 **INSURED CROP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

3 Section 196 of the of the Federal Agriculture Im-
 4 provement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7333) is
 5 amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a)(1)(C)—

7 (A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by
 8 inserting “best facilitates” after “assistance
 9 program that”;

10 (B) in clause (i)—

11 (i) by striking “best facilitates the use
 12 of that” and inserting “the use of those”;
 13 and

14 (ii) by striking “and” at the end;

15 (C) in clause (ii)—

16 (i) by striking “ensures the avail-
 17 ability of that” and inserting “the avail-
 18 ability of those”; and

19 (ii) by striking the period at the end
 20 and inserting a semicolon; and

21 (D) by adding at the end the following:

22 “(iii) the expansion of crops listed on
 23 the national crop table of the Agency with
 24 a local average market price;

25 “(iv) the voluntary graduation of pro-
 26 gram participants to the whole farm rev-

1 enue insurance plan developed under sec-
 2 tion 522(c)(7) of the Federal Crop Insur-
 3 ance Act (7 U.S.C. 1522(c)(7)); and

4 “(v) the establishment of pilot project
 5 options for purposes of addressing emerg-
 6 ing needs and collecting data to support
 7 the development of policies or plans of in-
 8 surance offered under the Federal Crop In-
 9 surance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.).”;

10 (2) in subsection (b), by striking paragraph (4)
 11 and inserting the following:

12 “(4) STREAMLINED APPLICATION PROCESS.—

13 “(A) DEFINITION OF WHOLE FARM REV-
 14 ENUE INSURANCE PLAN.—In this paragraph,
 15 the term ‘whole farm revenue insurance plan’
 16 means the whole farm revenue insurance plan
 17 developed under section 522(c)(7) of the Fed-
 18 eral Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1522(c)(7)).

19 “(B) ESTABLISHMENT.—

20 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary
 21 shall establish a streamlined process for
 22 the submission of records and acreage re-
 23 ports under paragraphs (2) and (3), re-
 24 spectively, for—

1 “(I) diverse production systems,
2 such as those typical of urban produc-
3 tion systems;

4 “(II) other small-scale production
5 systems; and

6 “(III) direct-to-consumer produc-
7 tion systems.

8 “(ii) INCLUSIONS.—The streamlined
9 process established under clause (i) shall
10 include—

11 “(I) reduced acreage report re-
12 quirements; and

13 “(II) allowing the submission to
14 the Secretary of 2 reports per year so
15 as to accommodate later acreage re-
16 porting.

17 “(C) ON-RAMP TO WHOLE FARM REVENUE
18 INSURANCE PLAN.—

19 “(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a
20 producer using diverse production systems
21 described in subparagraph (B)(i) that may
22 be eligible for the whole farm revenue in-
23 surance plan, the Secretary, acting through
24 the Administrator of the Agency, shall es-
25 tablish a streamlined revenue-based option

1 under the noninsured crop disaster assist-
2 ance program under this section to assist
3 the producer to transition, on a voluntary
4 basis, from the noninsured crop disaster
5 assistance program under this section to
6 the whole farm revenue insurance plan.

7 “(ii) REQUIREMENTS.—The stream-
8 lined revenue-based option established
9 under clause (i) shall offer a premium dis-
10 count of—

11 “(I) 25 percent for the first crop
12 year for which a producer—

13 “(aa) certifies that the pro-
14 ducer will transition from the
15 noninsured crop disaster assist-
16 ance program under this section
17 to the whole farm revenue insur-
18 ance plan not later than 3 years
19 after the date of the certification;
20 and

21 “(bb) provides revenue his-
22 tory with respect to that crop
23 year;

1 “(II) 50 percent for the crop
2 year following the crop year described
3 in subclause (I) if the producer—

4 “(aa) certifies that the pro-
5 ducer will transition from the
6 noninsured crop disaster assist-
7 ance program under this section
8 to the whole farm revenue insur-
9 ance plan not later than 2 years
10 after the date of the certification;
11 and

12 “(bb) provides revenue his-
13 tory with respect to that crop
14 year; and

15 “(III) 50 percent for the crop
16 year following the crop year described
17 in subclause (II) if the producer—

18 “(aa) purchases insurance
19 under the whole farm revenue in-
20 surance plan not later than 1
21 year after the date of the certifi-
22 cation; and

23 “(bb) provides revenue his-
24 tory with respect to that crop
25 year.

1 “(iii) TAX FORM SCHEDULE F.—The
 2 Secretary shall accept the Internal Rev-
 3 enue Service Tax Form Schedule F (or a
 4 successor form) with respect to a producer
 5 for purposes of establishing revenue history
 6 under clause (ii).

7 “(iv) REVENUE HISTORY SHARING.—
 8 The Secretary shall submit to the Federal
 9 Crop Insurance Corporation the revenue
 10 history submitted to the Secretary pursu-
 11 ant to clause (ii).

12 “(D) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 90
 13 days after the date of enactment of the Save
 14 Our Small Farms Act of 2025 the Secretary
 15 shall issue regulations to ensure that premium
 16 discounts under this paragraph are only avail-
 17 able to producers described in subparagraph
 18 (C)(i) that comply with this paragraph, to-
 19 gether with such exceptions as the Secretary de-
 20 termines to be necessary, including for pro-
 21 ducers unable to purchase a whole farm plan.”;
 22 (3) in subsection (c), by adding at the end the
 23 following:

24 “(5) NOTICE OF CERTAIN LOSSES.—A producer
 25 of a hand-harvested or rapidly deteriorating crop

1 may submit to the Secretary evidence of a loss of
2 that crop at any time after the 120-hour period fol-
3 lowing the loss in order to be eligible for assistance
4 under this section.

5 “(6) APPRAISAL OF LOSS.—

6 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which
7 an appraisal of crop acreage is requested by a
8 producer or determined to be necessary by a
9 State agricultural official or a State executive
10 director of the Agency for a year in which a no-
11 tice of loss is filed under this subsection, par-
12 ticularly in any case in which a loss adjuster is
13 not available within 72 hours of the notice, the
14 Secretary shall permit the following alternatives
15 to an in-person appraisal by a loss adjuster:

16 “(i) Remote appraisal, including time-
17 stamped photographs, drone footage, and
18 other technology applications.

19 “(ii) Appraisal by field office staff of
20 the Agency with requisite training, in con-
21 junction with a remote appraisal under
22 clause (i).

23 “(B) TRAINING.—The Secretary shall re-
24 quire field office staff to attend noninsured crop

1 disaster assistance appraisal training for pur-
 2 poses of subparagraph (A)(ii).”;

3 (4) in subsection (e)(3), by striking “65 per-
 4 cent” and inserting “100 percent”;

5 (5) in subsection (i)(2)—

6 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
 7 “and” at the end;

8 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the
 9 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

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

11 “(C) notwithstanding subparagraphs (A)
 12 and (B), in the case of a limited resource, be-
 13 ginning, or socially disadvantaged farmer, as
 14 determined by the Secretary, a veteran farmer
 15 or rancher (as defined in section 2501(a) of the
 16 Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act
 17 of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279(a))), or a producer par-
 18 ticipating in the streamlined revenue-based op-
 19 tion pursuant to subsection (b)(4)(C),
 20 \$600,000.”;

21 (6) in subsection (k)(2)—

22 (A) by striking “defined by the Secretary,
 23 or a veteran” and inserting “determined by the
 24 Secretary, a veteran”; and

1 (B) by inserting “, or a producer partici-
2 pating in the streamlined revenue-based option
3 pursuant to subsection (b)(4)(C)” before the
4 period at the end;

5 (7) in subsection (l), by striking paragraph (3)
6 and inserting the following:

7 “(3) PREMIUM DISCOUNT.—The coverage made
8 available under this subsection shall be available to
9 limited resource, beginning, or socially disadvan-
10 tagged farmers, as determined by the Secretary, vet-
11 eran farmers or ranchers (as defined in section
12 2501(a) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and
13 Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279(a))), and pro-
14 ducers participating in the streamlined revenue-
15 based option pursuant to subsection (b)(4)(C), in ex-
16 change for a premium that is 25 percent of the pre-
17 mium determined under paragraph (2).”; and

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

19 “(m) DELIVERY.—The Secretary shall collaborate
20 with outreach and technical assistance providers, exten-
21 sion offices, and State departments of agriculture to ad-
22 vertise the noninsured crop disaster assistance program
23 under this section, particularly to limited resource, begin-
24 ning, or socially disadvantaged farmers, as determined by
25 the Secretary, veteran farmers or ranchers (as defined in

1 section 2501(a) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation,
2 and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279(a))), and pro-
3 ducers eligible to participate in the streamlined revenue-
4 based option pursuant to subsection (b)(4)(C).”.

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