

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 602

To amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to support research and development of ungulate grazing land management techniques for purposes of wildfire mitigation, fuel reduction, and post-fire recovery.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 13, 2025

Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. LANKFORD) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to support research and development of ungulate grazing land management techniques for purposes of wildfire mitigation, fuel reduction, and post-fire recovery.

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 “Wildfire Resilience
5 Through Grazing Research Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRAZING FOR WILDFIRE MITIGATION RESEARCH**
 2 **AND DEVELOPMENT.**

3 Section 1672(d) of the Food, Agriculture, Conserva-
 4 tion, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5925(d)) is amend-
 5 ed by adding at the end the following:

6 “(21) GRAZING FOR WILDFIRE MITIGATION INI-
 7 TIATIVE.—

8 “(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

9 “(i) LAND-GRANT INSTITUTION.—The
 10 term ‘land-grant institution’ means an
 11 1862 Institution, 1890 Institution, or 1994
 12 Institution (as those terms are defined in
 13 section 2 of the Agricultural Research, Ex-
 14 tension, and Education Reform Act of
 15 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7601)).

16 “(ii) UNGULATE.—The term
 17 ‘ungulate’ means a hooved grazing mam-
 18 mal.

19 “(B) INITIATIVE.—Research and extension
 20 grants may be made under this section at land-
 21 grant institutions for the purposes of—

22 “(i) supporting research and develop-
 23 ment of ungulate grazing land manage-
 24 ment techniques that—

25 “(I) promote wildfire mitigation,
 26 fuel reduction, and post-fire recovery

on public land and private land, including research and development relating to understanding the economic benefits of, and increasing social support for, such activities;

“(II) are compatible with activities that protect against adverse environmental effects, including the spread of invasive plant species and disease, soil erosion, water quality degradation, and watershed degradation, such as—

“(aa) rotational grazing;

“(bb) managed stocking rates;

“(cc) riparian buffer zones;

“(dd) cover crops;

“(ee) fencing, including virtual fencing;

“(ff) manipulation of wild ungulate populations through targeted wildlife management; and

“(gg) water point management techniques; and

1 “(III) improve soil health; and

2 “(ii) disseminating information to
3 public and private landowners, land man-
4 agers, and livestock owners, including
5 through providing educational materials
6 and conducting outreach programs, regard-
7 ing—

8 “(I) ungulate grazing land man-
9 agement techniques that promote
10 wildfire mitigation, fuel reduction, and
11 post-fire recovery; and

12 “(II) compatible activities de-
13 scribed in clause (i).”.

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