

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3902

To amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to provide for a set-aside for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers for grants to support urban agriculture and innovative production, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 7, 2023

Mr. ESPAILLAT introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Agriculture

---

## A BILL

To amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to provide for a set-aside for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers for grants to support urban agriculture and innovative production, 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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Growing Opportunities  
5 for Innovative Farming Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SET-ASIDE FOR SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARM-**  
2 **ERS AND RANCHERS.**

3 Section 222(e) of the Department of Agriculture Re-  
4 organization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6923(e)) is amended  
5 to read as follows:

6 “(e) FUNDING.—

7 “(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

8 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
9 this section and the amendments made by this sec-  
10 tion \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019  
11 through 2028.

12 “(2) SET-ASIDE.—Of the amounts made avail-  
13 able under paragraph (1) for a fiscal year, the Sec-  
14 retary shall set aside not less than 10 percent to  
15 award grants under subsection (c) to eligible entities  
16 that serve socially disadvantaged farmers and ranch-  
17 ers (as defined in section 2501(a) of the Food, Agri-  
18 culture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7  
19 U.S.C. 6923(a))), in amounts of not less than  
20 \$10,000 per grantee per fiscal year.”.

21 **SEC. 3. ANNUAL REPORT ON OPPORTUNITIES AND OUT-**  
22 **REACH FOR SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED**  
23 **FARMERS AND RANCHERS.**

24 Section 2501(k) of the Food, Agriculture, Conserva-  
25 tion, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279(k)) is amend-  
26 ed by adding at the end the following:

1           “(3) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year  
2 after the date of the enactment of the Growing Op-  
3 portunities for Innovative Farming Act, and each  
4 year thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the  
5 Committee on Agriculture of the House of Rep-  
6 resentatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nu-  
7 trition, and Forestry a report describing—

8           “(A) targeted farming opportunities, train-  
9 ing, and outreach practices being carried out by  
10 the Secretary under this section;

11           “(B) a list of census tracts that the Sec-  
12 retary has provided technical assistance to  
13 under this section;

14           “(C) recommendations to Congress on how  
15 to enhance equity for socially disadvantaged,  
16 small farmers and ranchers; and

17           “(D) any other data the Secretary deter-  
18 mines to be necessary to evaluate the benefits  
19 of the technical assistance provided, outreach  
20 efforts undertaken, and grants awarded under  
21 this section.”.

○