

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3433

To amend the Agricultural Act of 2014 to increase the number of base acres upon which agricultural producers are authorized to grow fruits and vegetables without a resulting reduction in payment acres on their farm when the resulting produce is used to help alleviate a food desert, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 26, 2017

Ms. KELLY of Illinois (for herself and Mr. BOST) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Agricultural Act of 2014 to increase the number of base acres upon which agricultural producers are authorized to grow fruits and vegetables without a resulting reduction in payment acres on their farm when the resulting produce is used to help alleviate a food desert, 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 “Feeding America
5 through Farm Flexibility Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. PRODUCER DISCRETION TO PLANT ADDITIONAL**
2 **FRUITS AND VEGETABLES ON BASE ACRES**
3 **WITHOUT A RESULTING REDUCTION IN PAY-**
4 **MENT ACRES.**

5 Section 1114(e) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7
6 U.S.C. 9014(e)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
7 lowing new paragraph:

8 “(5) PRODUCER DISCRETION TO PLANT ADDI-
9 TIONAL FRUITS AND VEGETABLES TO ALLEVIATE
10 FOOD DESERTS.—

11 “(A) ADDITIONAL PLANTING AUTHORITY;
12 PURPOSE.—The percentages specified in para-
13 graphs (2) and (3) are increased by an addi-
14 tional five percent of base acres, to 20 percent
15 and 40 percent respectively, if the crops re-
16 ferred to in paragraph (1) grown on the addi-
17 tional base acres are grown solely for sale or
18 donation, directly or indirectly by the producer
19 and with or without processing, in a food
20 desert.

21 “(B) FOOD DESERT DEFINED.—In this
22 paragraph, the term ‘food desert’ means a cen-
23 sus tract that, as determined by the Sec-
24 retary—

25 “(i) has a poverty rate of 20 percent
26 or greater; and

1 “(ii) provides difficult access to a re-
2 tail outlet that provides a wide variety of
3 fruits and vegetables.”.

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