

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9244

To amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to increase the funds allocated to carry out the market access program and the foreign market development cooperator program of the Department of Agriculture.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 28, 2022

Mr. COSTA (for himself, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. MANN, Ms. SCHRIER, Mrs. HINSON, and Mr. PANETTA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to increase the funds allocated to carry out the market access program and the foreign market development cooperator program of the Department of Agriculture.

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 “Supporting Market Ac-
5 cess to Reinvigorate Trade Act of 2022” or the “SMART
6 Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Between 1977 and 2019, the export pro-
2 motion programs of the Department of Agriculture
3 (in this section referred to as the “Programs”) have
4 added, on average, \$9,600,000,000 per year to the
5 value of United States agricultural exports, equal to
6 a total of nearly \$648,000,000,000, or 13.7 percent,
7 in additional export revenue.

8 (2) Between 1977 and 2019, the Programs
9 have generated a net return of \$24.50 for every dol-
10 lar invested.

11 (3) Between 2002 and 2019, the Programs
12 have contributed up to 225,800 full- and part-time
13 jobs across the United States economy.

14 (4) Between 2002 and 2019, the Programs
15 have added up to \$45,000,000,000 in gross eco-
16 nomic output and \$22,300,000,000 in gross domes-
17 tic product.

18 (5) Communities across the United States that
19 produce agricultural commodities as varied as ap-
20 ples, blueberries, strawberries, cotton, beef, soy-
21 beans, rice, wheat, dairy, corn, citrus, wine, pork,
22 peanuts, cranberries, lentils, tree nuts, timber, poul-
23 try, potatoes, and seafood, have utilized the Pro-
24 grams to increase the foreign market access of such
25 communities.

1 (6) Private sector contributions have helped
2 maintain the public-private partnership between the
3 Department of Agriculture and private agricultural
4 groups as the effective available funds from the De-
5 partment have declined, with private contributions
6 representing approximately 70 to 77 percent of the
7 funds available for export promotion from 2013 to
8 2019.

9 (7) Agricultural export promotion programs of
10 foreign competitors have expanded at a far faster
11 rate than the Programs, placing United States pro-
12 ducers at a competitive disadvantage in international
13 markets.

14 (8) The economic impact of the Programs has
15 eroded in recent years, as funding for the Market
16 Access Program has remained static since 2006, and
17 funding for the Foreign Market Development Pro-
18 gram has remained static since 2002, while inflation
19 has increased.

20 (9) A recent academic analysis found that dou-
21 bling public funding for the Market Access Program
22 and the Foreign Market Development Program, cou-
23 pled with increasing private contributions by 10 to
24 20 percent, would result in average annual gains in

1 agricultural exports of approximately
2 \$7,400,000,000.

3 **SEC. 3. INCREASE IN FUND ALLOCATION TO EXPORT PRO-**
4 **MOTION PROGRAMS.**

5 Section 203(f)(3) of the Agricultural Trade Act of
6 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5623(f)(3)) is amended by adding at the
7 end the following:

8 “(C) **ADDITIONAL FUNDS.**—For each of
9 fiscal years 2024 through 2029, the Secretary
10 shall allocate funds to carry out this section in
11 accordance with the following:

12 “(i) **MARKET ACCESS PROGRAM.**—For
13 market access activities authorized under
14 subsection (b), of the funds of, or an equal
15 value of commodities owned by, the Com-
16modity Credit Corporation, not less than
17 \$400,000,000 for each such fiscal year.

18 “(ii) **FOREIGN MARKET DEVELOP-**
19 **MENT COOPERATOR PROGRAM.**—To carry
20 out subsection (c), of the funds of, or an
21 equal value of commodities owned by, the
22 Commodity Credit Corporation, not less
23 than \$69,000,000 for each such fiscal
24 year.”.

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