

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2414

To amend the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to establish a national service program that provides conservation opportunities on public and private lands, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 21, 2021

Mr. CASEY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to establish a national service program that provides conservation opportunities on public and private lands, 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 “Restore Environmental
5 Vitality and Improve Volatile Economy by the Civilian
6 Conservation Corps Act” or the “REVIVE the CCC Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle E of title I of the Na-
3 tional and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
4 12611 et seq.) is amended—

5 (1) by striking the heading for subtitle E and
6 inserting the following:

7 **“Subtitle E—National Corps**
8 **“CHAPTER 1—NATIONAL CIVILIAN**
9 **COMMUNITY CORPS”;**

10 and

11 (2) by adding at the end the following:

12 **“CHAPTER 2—CIVILIAN CONSERVATION**
13 **CORPS**

14 **“SEC. 166. CIVILIAN CONSERVATION PROGRAM.**

15 “(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this chapter are—

16 “(1) to help relieve the widespread distress and
17 unemployment in the United States;

18 “(2) to train and support career advancement,
19 leading to long-term employment opportunities;

20 “(3) to provide for the restoration of depleted
21 natural resources in the United States;

22 “(4) to conserve and improve community nat-
23 ural resources;

24 “(5) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and se-
25 quester carbon; and

1 “(6) to enhance climate change adaptation and
2 resilience.

3 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this chapter:

4 “(1) CORPORATION.—The term ‘Corporation’
5 means the Corporation (as defined in section 101),
6 or a partner described in subsection (d), to the ex-
7 tent provided in the memorandum referred to in
8 subsection (d).

9 “(2) CORPS.—The term ‘Corps’ means the Ci-
10 vilian Conservation Corps established under sub-
11 section (c).

12 “(3) ELIGIBLE HOST ENTITY.—The term ‘eligi-
13 ble host entity’ means an organization, entity, or in-
14 dividual that—

15 “(A) administers the program at the local
16 level; and

17 “(B) supervises Corps members in partner-
18 ship and coordination with the Corporation, in-
19 cluding the relevant partnering Federal agency
20 specified in the memorandum for the issue area
21 addressed by the program at the local level.

22 “(4) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—
23 The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the
24 same meaning given such term in sections 101(a)

1 and 102(a)(1) of the Higher Education Act of 1965
2 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a), 1002(a)(1)).

3 “(5) PARTNERING FEDERAL AGENCY.—The
4 term ‘partnering Federal agency’ means a Federal
5 agency described in subsection (d)(1).

6 “(6) PROGRAM.—The term ‘program’ means
7 the Civilian Conservation program established under
8 subsection (c).

9 “(7) STATE COORDINATING AGENCY.—The
10 term ‘State coordinating agency’ means an agency in
11 a State—

12 “(A) that is selected by the State to co-
13 ordinate, subject to the memorandum described
14 in subsection (d), the implementation of activi-
15 ties under this chapter at eligible worksites in
16 the State, including providing services through
17 State agencies and coordinating access to train-
18 ing (including technical instruction) and edu-
19 cational resources for Corps members;

20 “(B) may be a State department of envi-
21 ronmental protection, natural resources, or ag-
22 riculture, or other department or commission
23 (as determined by the Corporation); and

24 “(C) that coordinates and partners with
25 Tribal agencies (such as Tribal departments of

1 environmental protection, natural resources, or
2 agriculture) regarding the implementation of
3 activities under this chapter at eligible work-
4 sites associated with a Tribe (including for the
5 provision of services through Tribal agencies), if
6 the Corporation determines such coordination
7 and partnership is relevant for the State.

8 “(c) ESTABLISHMENT OF CIVILIAN CONSERVATION
9 CORPS AND PROGRAM.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—

11 “(A) CORPS.—The Corporation (as defined
12 in section 101) may establish a Civilian Con-
13 servation Corps.

14 “(B) PROGRAM.—The Corporation (as de-
15 fined in subsection (b)) may establish and ad-
16 minister a Civilian Conservation program, to
17 place unemployed and underemployed citizens
18 of the United States in service positions related
19 to conservation, including conservation of pri-
20 vate and public lands.

21 “(2) CONSERVATION SERVICE POSITIONS.—The
22 program shall provide conservation service positions,
23 and training (including technical instruction) and
24 education related to such service positions, in order
25 to support—

1 “(A) the protection, enhancement, and res-
2 toration of natural resources;

3 “(B) climate change mitigation and adap-
4 tation;

5 “(C) investment in future generations of
6 farmers, foresters, ranchers, conservationists,
7 and other stewards of the Nation’s shared nat-
8 ural resources;

9 “(D) the establishment, improvement, and
10 rehabilitation of public outdoor recreation
11 amenities and infrastructure; or

12 “(E) the reduction of environmental health
13 disparities in communities of color, low-income
14 communities, and Tribal and indigenous com-
15 munities, that are experiencing disproportionate
16 exposure to environmental harms and risks.

17 “(d) ADMINISTRATION.—The program shall be ad-
18 ministered, as specified in a memorandum of under-
19 standing, by the Corporation (as defined in section 101),
20 in partnership with—

21 “(1) applicable Federal agencies with the rel-
22 evant issue area expertise and standards, such as
23 the Department of Agriculture and the Department
24 of the Interior; and

1 “(2) applicable State or Tribal agencies with
2 the relevant issue area expertise and standards, such
3 as the State or Tribal agencies with jurisdiction over
4 agriculture, natural resources, or environmental pro-
5 tection.

6 “(e) GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE HOST ENTITIES.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the pro-
8 gram, the Corporation shall make grants to entities
9 that own, operate, manage, or support work on eligi-
10 ble worksites, to serve as eligible host entities, and
11 to administer the program at the local level.

12 “(2) WAIVER OF COST SHARING REQUIRE-
13 MENT.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In the event of a cov-
15 ered project carried out by an eligible host enti-
16 ty to which the cost sharing requirement under
17 section 212(a)(1) of the Public Land Corps Act
18 of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1729(a)(1)) would other-
19 wise apply, notwithstanding that requirement, a
20 grant under this subsection, combined with
21 funds received under an Act described in sub-
22 paragraph (B), may be used to fund costs of
23 the project greater than 75 percent of the cost
24 of such project.

1 “(B) COVERED PROJECT.—In this para-
2 graph, the term ‘covered project’ means a
3 project carried out pursuant to—

4 “(i) title I of the Act entitled ‘An Act
5 to establish a pilot program in the Depart-
6 ments of the Interior and Agriculture des-
7 ignated as the Youth Conservation Corps,
8 and for other purposes’, approved August
9 13, 1970 (commonly known as the ‘Youth
10 Conservation Corps Act of 1970’; 16
11 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); or

12 “(ii) the Public Lands Corps Act of
13 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1721 et seq.).

14 “(f) ELIGIBLE HOST ENTITIES AND WORKSITES.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a
16 grant under subsection (e) and become an eligible
17 host entity, an entity shall own, operate, manage, or
18 support work on an eligible worksite for a Corps
19 project.

20 “(2) ENTITIES.—Entities eligible to receive
21 such a grant and become an eligible host entity may
22 include—

23 “(A) the board in charge of a local con-
24 servation district;

1 “(B) a State or local office of the Coopera-
2 tive Extension System or an equivalent Tribal
3 office;

4 “(C) an individual farmer;

5 “(D) a nonprofit organization, farmer
6 membership organization, or other agriculture
7 group, with conservation expertise, that can
8 place a Corps member on an individual farm;

9 “(E) a State or Tribal agency with juris-
10 diction over agriculture or natural resources;

11 “(F) the trustee of a land trust;

12 “(G) a forest or environmental consultant;

13 “(H) the sponsor of an apprenticeship pro-
14 gram that has been registered by the Depart-
15 ment of Labor, a State office of apprenticeship,
16 or an equivalent Tribal office;

17 “(I) an entity that hosts a Corps member
18 under a service program, including—

19 “(i) a program authorized under—

20 “(I) this Act, including the
21 Healthy Futures Corps described in
22 section 122;

23 “(II) title I of the Act entitled
24 ‘An Act to establish a pilot program
25 in the Departments of the Interior

1 and Agriculture designated as the
2 Youth Conservation Corps, and for
3 other purposes’, approved August 13,
4 1970 (commonly known as the ‘Youth
5 Conservation Corps Act of 1970’; 16
6 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); or

7 “(III) the Public Lands Corps
8 Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1721 et seq.);

9 “(ii) a program of the Indian Youth
10 Service Corps authorized under section
11 210 of the Public Lands Corps Act of
12 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1727b); and

13 “(iii) a program of the Urban Youth
14 Corps authorized under section 106 of the
15 National and Community Service Trust
16 Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 12656);

17 “(J) a local agriculture, conservation, wa-
18 tershed, or wildlife nonprofit organization;

19 “(K) a State or Tribal park or forest foun-
20 dation; and

21 “(L) another appropriate entity, as deter-
22 mined by the Corporation.

23 “(3) WORKSITES.—

24 “(A) PUBLIC OR CERTAIN PRIVATE
25 LAND.—

1 “(i) IN GENERAL.—An eligible work-
2 site shall be located on public land or on
3 private land determined to be eligible
4 under clause (ii).

5 “(ii) ELIGIBILITY ON PRIVATE
6 LANDS.—In the case of a proposed work-
7 site located on private land, the Corpora-
8 tion, in consultation with the partnering
9 Federal agencies described in subsection
10 (d)(1), shall determine whether the site is
11 an eligible worksite for purposes of this
12 paragraph by determining the adequacy of
13 the public conservation benefit of the re-
14 lated Corps project. In determining the
15 adequacy of that benefit, the Corporation
16 may consider, among other factors, the
17 project’s ability to address core State,
18 Tribal, or local conservation objectives
19 such as addressing land conservation prior-
20 ities, promoting climate resiliency, fulfilling
21 watershed plans, establishing stream buff-
22 ers, restoring critical wildlife habitat, or
23 promoting agricultural best management
24 practices.

1 “(iii) WORKSITE PREDOMINANTLY LO-
2 CATED ON PRIVATE LAND.—A proposed
3 worksite that is predominantly located on
4 private land will be treated as a proposed
5 worksite located on private land for pur-
6 poses of clause (ii).

7 “(B) ELIGIBILITY OF PROPOSED WORK-
8 SITE IN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AREA.—In
9 the case of a proposed worksite located in an
10 environmental justice area identified under sub-
11 section (j), the Corporation shall determine
12 whether the site is an eligible worksite under
13 this subsection by determining—

14 “(i) the benefits of the related Corps
15 project for the health of the community liv-
16 ing in the environmental justice area, and
17 whether those benefits are equitably dis-
18 tributed within such community, including
19 the ability of the project to—

20 “(I) effect reductions in haz-
21 ardous air pollutants;

22 “(II) improve water quality, ac-
23 cess, and affordability;

24 “(III) increase access to green
25 space and outdoor recreation; or

1 “(IV) expand access to and af-
2 fordability of healthy food; and

3 “(ii) whether the proposed host entity
4 can demonstrate there was a meaningful
5 public involvement process in the develop-
6 ment of the proposed Corps project.

7 “(g) APPLICATIONS.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In order for an entity de-
9 scribed in subsection (f) to be eligible to receive a
10 grant under subsection (e) for a Corps project, an
11 entity shall submit an application to the Corporation
12 at such time, in such manner, and containing such
13 information as the Corporation may require, includ-
14 ing—

15 “(A) information describing the Corps
16 project to be carried out at the entity’s eligible
17 worksite;

18 “(B)(i) information describing any con-
19 tracts or agreements, with the State in which
20 the entity is located or Indian tribe with which
21 the entity is associated, that will be necessary
22 to enter into under paragraph (3), in conjunc-
23 tion with the project; and

1 “(ii) an assurance that the entity will carry
2 out the project in cooperation with agencies
3 who receive such a contract or agreement;

4 “(C) whether such entity is seeking a waiv-
5 er under subsection (e)(2)(B) of the cost shar-
6 ing requirement under section 212 of the Public
7 Land Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1729);

8 “(D) certification by the relevant State co-
9 ordinating agency that the State coordinating
10 agency—

11 “(i) will provide services through
12 agencies, and other functions described in
13 paragraph (3)(A), in accordance with a
14 contract or agreement entered into under
15 paragraph (3); and

16 “(ii) will facilitate coordination be-
17 tween eligible host entities in the State for
18 purpose of prioritizing participants as de-
19 scribed in subsection (h)(4);

20 “(E) certification by the relevant State
21 Commission that the State Commission has es-
22 tablished an Environmental Equity Resource
23 Center under subsection (j); and

1 “(F) as relevant, certification by the State
2 or Tribal agency to provide the access and re-
3 sources, described in paragraph (3)(B).

4 “(2) GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF GRANTS.—
5 The Corporation shall distribute grants in a geo-
6 graphically balanced manner across the country and
7 regions of the country.

8 “(3) CONTRACTS AND ARRANGEMENTS WITH
9 STATES OR INDIAN TRIBES.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—On the approval of an
11 application for an eligible host entity, the eligi-
12 ble host entity shall enter into such contracts or
13 agreements with the State coordinating agency
14 as may be necessary to carry out this section,
15 including to arrange for the provision of serv-
16 ices through State or Tribal agencies (which
17 may be through providing access and resources
18 under subparagraph (B)).

19 “(B) FARMER ELIGIBLE HOST ENTITY.—
20 On the approval of an application for an eligible
21 host entity that is an individual farmer in a
22 State or associated with an Indian tribe, the
23 Corporation shall notify the State or Tribal
24 agency with jurisdiction over agriculture, which
25 shall provide access to and resources for train-

1 ing and apprenticeships, including from organi-
2 zations and farmer groups in the State or asso-
3 ciated with the Indian tribe, to support and
4 provide coordination between such farmer host
5 entities in the State or associated with an In-
6 dian tribe.

7 “(h) ELIGIBLE CORPS MEMBERS.—

8 “(1) ELIGIBILITY.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to par-
10 ticipate in and hold a service position in the
11 Corps, an individual shall be an unemployed or
12 underemployed individual.

13 “(B) ELIGIBILITY FOR SUBPROGRAMS.—

14 Within the program, there shall be specific sub-
15 programs for—

16 “(i) recent graduates, as described in
17 paragraph (2); and

18 “(ii) returning citizens, as described
19 in paragraph (3).

20 “(2) RECENT GRADUATES.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The program shall
22 have subprograms targeted to support, through
23 service positions and training (including tech-
24 nical instruction) and education related to the
25 service positions in the program—

1 “(i) individuals who have—

2 “(I) graduated from an institu-
3 tion of higher education within the 4
4 months prior to beginning a term of
5 service in the program; and

6 “(II) have been unemployed or
7 underemployed during that time; and

8 “(ii) individuals who have—

9 “(I) graduated high school within
10 the 4 months prior to beginning a
11 term of service in the program; and

12 “(II) have been unemployed or
13 underemployed during that time.

14 “(3) RETURNING CITIZENS (INCLUDING JUS-
15 TICE-INVOLVED YOUTH).—

16 “(A) RETURNING CITIZEN.—The term ‘re-
17 turning citizen’ means a citizen who, within the
18 2 years prior to beginning a term of service in
19 the program, returned from incarceration in a
20 correctional institution or was subject to the ju-
21 venile or adult justice system.

22 “(B) SUBPROGRAM.—The program shall
23 include an earn-while-you-learn career pathway
24 subprogram for returning citizens (including
25 justice-involved youth) to provide an accessible

1 pathway into long-term careers in the conserva-
2 tion workforce.

3 “(C) WORKFORCE PREPARATION.—The eli-
4 gible host entity shall ensure that the subpro-
5 gram described in subparagraph (B) includes—

6 “(i) on-the-job-training and mentoring
7 from expert practitioners in conservation;

8 “(ii) continuing education courses;
9 and

10 “(iii) credit towards a postsecondary
11 degree or certificate granted by an institu-
12 tion of higher education.

13 “(4) UNDERSERVED PARTICIPANTS.—Each eli-
14 gible host entity that receives a grant under sub-
15 section (e) shall, through coordination with other eli-
16 gible host entities in the State of such eligible host
17 entity facilitated by the State coordinating agency—

18 “(A) prioritize participants from under-
19 served communities, including participants—

20 “(i) from communities of racial and
21 ethnic minorities;

22 “(ii) from low-income communities;

23 “(iii) from Tribal and indigenous com-
24 munities; and

1 “(iv) who are individuals with disabil-
2 ities; and

3 “(B) prioritize participants residing in an
4 environmental justice area (identified under
5 subsection (j)) near a proposed worksite.

6 “(5) SERVICE POSITIONS.—

7 “(A) PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND SERVICE
8 POSITIONS.—

9 “(i) LOCALLY ESTABLISHED OBJEC-
10 TIVES AND SERVICE POSITIONS.—Each eli-
11 gible host entity that receives a grant
12 under this section shall establish project
13 objectives, position-specific criteria, and
14 service position descriptions for a Corps
15 project, in order to ensure that the project
16 is locally led and addresses specific local
17 needs.

18 “(ii) TEMPLATES AND MATERIALS.—
19 The Corporation shall provide project tem-
20 plates and materials to support the estab-
21 lishment of the objectives, criteria, and de-
22 scriptions.

23 “(B) SERVICE POSITION APPLICATION
24 PROCESS.—

1 “(i) MATERIALS.—The eligible host
2 entity shall make the project objectives, po-
3 sition-specific criteria, and service position
4 descriptions available to individuals seeking
5 to apply for service positions in the Corps
6 project at the entity’s worksite.

7 “(ii) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to
8 obtain a service position at the worksite,
9 an individual shall submit an application to
10 the eligible host entity and obtain approval
11 of the application. An individual with an
12 approved application shall be considered to
13 be a Corps member for purposes of this
14 section.

15 “(C) APPRENTICESHIPS AS SERVICE POSI-
16 TIONS.—Service positions under this section
17 may include—

18 “(i) an apprenticeship registered
19 under the Act of August 16, 1937 (com-
20 monly known as the ‘National Apprentice-
21 ship Act’; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 663; 29
22 U.S.C. 50 et seq.); and

23 “(ii) a preapprenticeship designed to
24 lead to an apprenticeship described in
25 clause (i).

1 “(i) USE OF FUNDS.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible host entity that
3 receives a grant under subsection (e) shall use the
4 grant funds to provide, for each Corps member at
5 the worksite—

6 “(A) a service position in which the Corps
7 member will carry out a service activity de-
8 scribed in paragraph (2), an allowance under
9 paragraph (4) for such service, and (on ap-
10 proval of an application) an apprenticeship
11 award under paragraph (5) at the successful
12 completion of that service; and

13 “(B) training (including technical instruc-
14 tion) and education related to the service posi-
15 tion and described in paragraph (3)(A), an al-
16 lowance under paragraph (4) for such training,
17 technical instruction, and education, and con-
18 nections and educational opportunities de-
19 scribed in paragraph (3)(B).

20 “(2) SERVICE ACTIVITIES.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The service activities
22 referred to in paragraph (1)(A) shall include—

23 “(i) for service positions with respect
24 to preserving or restoring public land
25 (whether Federal, State, Tribal, or local)—

1 “(I) restoration of forest eco-
2 systems, and reforestation or tree
3 planting;

4 “(II) hazardous fuel treatments
5 for the purpose of mitigating the risk
6 of, or suppressing, wildfires in the
7 western United States;

8 “(III) management of terrestrial
9 and aquatic invasive species;

10 “(IV) watershed restoration and
11 wetlands management;

12 “(V) coastal and inland eco-
13 system restoration;

14 “(VI) prescribed burning;

15 “(VII) park and infrastructure
16 maintenance;

17 “(VIII) facility expansion;

18 “(IX) recreation and trail work;

19 “(X) public outreach and edu-
20 cation;

21 “(XI) pollinator habitat estab-
22 lishment and management;

23 “(XII) accessibility improvement;

24 “(XIII) flood hazard mitigation;

1 “(XIV) road reconstruction and
2 maintenance;

3 “(XV) maintenance or restora-
4 tion of the native habitats of species
5 listed as endangered species under the
6 Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16
7 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) and other habi-
8 tat restoration; and

9 “(XVI) provision of wildlife
10 crossing programs;

11 “(ii) for service positions with respect
12 to agriculture—

13 “(I) riparian buffer establish-
14 ment and maintenance;

15 “(II) grazing management;

16 “(III) pollinator habitat estab-
17 lishment and management;

18 “(IV) integrated pest manage-
19 ment;

20 “(V) prescribed burning;

21 “(VI) prairie strip establishment;

22 “(VII) grassland restoration;

23 “(VIII) soil health management;

24 “(IX) silvopasture;

1 “(X) on-farm infrastructure de-
2 velopment, construction, or repair,
3 that results in environmental benefits;
4 and

5 “(XI) other agricultural practices
6 with significant environmental bene-
7 fits;

8 “(iii) for service positions with respect
9 to restoration and remediation of natural
10 resources—

11 “(I) abandoned mine land rec-
12 lamation;

13 “(II) land and water quality res-
14 toration;

15 “(III) tree planting and carrying
16 out other low-tech treatments; and

17 “(IV) plugging orphan oil and
18 gas wells;

19 “(iv) for service positions with respect
20 to urban and rural community resilience
21 and sustainability—

22 “(I) community greening;

23 “(II) promoting urban agri-
24 culture;

1 “(III) promoting community gar-
2 dens;

3 “(IV) local food economy develop-
4 ment;

5 “(V) heat island mitigation;

6 “(VI) establishing and maintain-
7 ing pedestrian pathways;

8 “(VII) establishing and maintain-
9 ing greenways and trails;

10 “(VIII) hazard mitigation;

11 “(IX) water resources develop-
12 ment;

13 “(X) establishing and maintain-
14 ing community solar projects; and

15 “(XI) promoting energy effi-
16 ciency through retrofitting; and

17 “(v) for service positions with respect
18 to administration and monitoring—

19 “(I) administrative activities to
20 support the work at local conservation
21 districts;

22 “(II) project coordination and
23 management;

24 “(III) water quality monitoring;

1 “(IV) support of State or Tribal
2 agencies;

3 “(V) support of land trusts and
4 conservancies;

5 “(VI) support of local park and
6 recreation offices;

7 “(VII) support of community and
8 environmental justice organizations;
9 and

10 “(VIII) volunteer coordination.

11 “(B) FUNDING FOR AGRICULTURAL CON-
12 SERVATION PRACTICES.—

13 “(i) IN GENERAL.—An eligible host
14 entity that receives a grant under sub-
15 section (e) may use the funds to support
16 the implementation of an agricultural con-
17 servation practice for which funding is pro-
18 vided through a program of the Depart-
19 ment of Agriculture and that is carried out
20 at the applicable worksite if the sum of the
21 amount of funding received through that
22 program and the amount of the grant
23 under subsection (e) is not greater than
24 the total cost of materials, labor, and in-
25 come forgone from conservation practice

1 adoption associated with the implementa-
2 tion of that practice.

3 “(ii) PRIORITY.—In providing grants
4 under subsection (e) for projects that sup-
5 port the implementation of agricultural
6 conservation practices described in clause
7 (i), the Corporation shall give priority to
8 projects carried out on farming operations
9 managed by beginning farmers or ranchers
10 or socially disadvantaged farmers or ranch-
11 ers.

12 “(iii) SPECIALIZED CREWS.—A State,
13 local, or Tribal agency may host a special-
14 ized conservation crew to support the im-
15 plementation of agricultural conservation
16 practices described in clause (i), including
17 fencing, tree planting buffer installation, or
18 other practices approved by the Natural
19 Resources Conservation Service of the De-
20 partment of Agriculture across multiple
21 farming operations in a region.

22 “(C) NUTRIENT REDUCTION AND AGRI-
23 CULTURAL CONSERVATION PRACTICES.—Service
24 activities described in subparagraph (A) relat-
25 ing to agriculture or forestry that are carried

1 out using funds from a grant under subsection
2 (e) may be used to support Federal, State,
3 Tribal, and local efforts to achieve nutrient re-
4 duction in impaired waterways.

5 “(3) TRAINING AND EDUCATION.—

6 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The eligible host enti-
7 ty shall arrange for the provision of training
8 (including technical instruction and develop-
9 ment of skills such as time management, con-
10 flict resolution, goal development, and resume
11 writing) and education opportunities, including
12 workforce investment activities as defined in
13 section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Op-
14 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102), that are re-
15 lated to the service position, for each partici-
16 pant at the worksite and specific to the specific
17 training needs of each participant. If the entity
18 provides on-site training (including technical in-
19 struction or skills development) or education,
20 the entity shall provide training (including tech-
21 nical instruction or skills development) or edu-
22 cation, respectively, that utilizes the skills and
23 expertise of experienced conservationists and
24 professionals, including training (including tech-

1 nical instruction or skills development) or edu-
2 cation by—

3 “(i) established farmers;

4 “(ii)(I) institutions of higher edu-
5 cation;

6 “(II) the State system of higher edu-
7 cation;

8 “(III) land-grant colleges and univer-
9 sities (as defined in section 1404 of the
10 National Agricultural Research, Extension,
11 and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.
12 3103));

13 “(IV) community colleges;

14 “(V) Historically Black Colleges and
15 Universities (as defined by the term ‘part
16 B institution’ under section 322 of the
17 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
18 1061));

19 “(VI) Hispanic-serving institutions
20 (as defined in section 502(a) of the Higher
21 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
22 1101a(a)));

23 “(VII) Tribal Colleges or Universities
24 (as defined in section 316(b) of such Act
25 (20 U.S.C. 1059c(b)));

1 “(VIII) Asian American and Native
2 American Pacific Islander-serving institu-
3 tions (as defined in section 320(b) of such
4 Act (20 U.S.C. 1059g(b)); and

5 “(IX) area career and technical edu-
6 cation schools, as defined in section 3 of
7 the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical
8 Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302);

9 “(iii) offices of the Cooperative Exten-
10 sion System;

11 “(iv) State and Tribal agencies with
12 jurisdiction over agriculture or natural re-
13 sources; or

14 “(v) nonprofit organizations with con-
15 servation expertise and training capacity.

16 “(B) POST-PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNI-
17 TIES.—The eligible host entity shall ensure that
18 each participant at the worksite receiving train-
19 ing (including technical instruction) and edu-
20 cation is—

21 “(i) connected to labor organizations,
22 nonprofit organizations, State and Tribal
23 agencies, and small businesses, for future
24 job opportunities following the term of
25 service of the participant; and

1 “(ii) provided with further educational
2 opportunities throughout the term of serv-
3 ice of the participant, and after the term
4 of service of the participant has concluded.

5 “(C) CORPS MEMBER EMPLOYMENT
6 STANDARD.—A participant shall be considered
7 to be a participant (as defined in section 101
8 of the National and Community Service Act of
9 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12511)) of the eligible host
10 entity for which the participant serves.

11 “(4) CORPS MEMBER ALLOWANCE AND BENE-
12 FITS.—

13 “(A) ALLOWANCE.—The eligible host enti-
14 ty shall provide to a participant, as an allow-
15 ance, \$15 for each hour of service in a service
16 position and \$15 for each hour of training (in-
17 cluding technical instruction) and education
18 under paragraph (3)(A).

19 “(B) HEALTH INSURANCE.—

20 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The eligible host
21 entity shall provide or make available a
22 basic health care policy for each full-time
23 participant in a service position, if the par-
24 ticipant is not otherwise covered by a
25 health care policy. The Corporation shall

1 establish minimum standards that all plans
2 must meet in order to qualify for payment
3 under this section, any circumstances in
4 which an alternative health care policy may
5 be substituted for the basic health care
6 policy, and mechanisms to prohibit partici-
7 pants from dropping existing coverage.

8 “(ii) OPTION.—The eligible host enti-
9 ty may elect to provide from its own funds
10 or make available a health care policy for
11 participants that does not meet all of the
12 standards established by the Corporation if
13 the fair market value of such policy is
14 equal to or greater than the fair market
15 value of a plan that meets the minimum
16 standards established by the Corporation,
17 and is consistent with other applicable
18 laws.

19 “(C) OTHER BENEFITS.—An eligible host
20 entity may provide to a participant funds to be
21 used for transportation, child care, mental
22 health services, and other support for such par-
23 ticipants.

24 “(5) APPRENTICESHIP AWARD.—

1 “(A) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the
2 term ‘apprenticeship’ means—

3 “(i) an apprenticeship registered
4 under the Act of August 16, 1937 (com-
5 monly known as the ‘National Apprentice-
6 ship Act’; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 663; 29
7 U.S.C. 50 et seq.); and

8 “(ii) a preapprenticeship designed to
9 lead to an apprenticeship described in
10 clause (i).

11 “(B) NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 30
12 days after a participant completes a term of
13 service in a service position under this sub-
14 section, the corresponding eligible host entity
15 shall inform the Corporation. On determining
16 that a participant has completed that term of
17 service, the Corporation shall notify the partici-
18 pant of the determination, and the opportunity
19 to apply for an apprenticeship award under this
20 paragraph.

21 “(C) APPLICATION.—Not later than 12
22 months after receiving that notification, a par-
23 ticipant that seeks an apprenticeship award
24 under this paragraph shall submit an applica-
25 tion to the Corporation at such time, in such

1 manner, and containing such information as the
2 Corporation may require, including—

3 “(i) information demonstrating the
4 goods or services to be acquired for the ap-
5 prenticeship, and their cost; and

6 “(ii) information establishing that the
7 goods or services are described in section
8 472 of the Higher Education Act of 1965
9 (20 U.S.C. 1087ll).

10 “(D) AWARD.—On approving an applica-
11 tion under subparagraph (C), the Corporation
12 shall make an award, in an apprenticeship
13 amount supported by the application but not
14 more than \$5,000, for the participant. The Cor-
15 poration shall make the award to the partici-
16 pant.

17 “(6) CONSERVATION TECHNICAL ASSIST-
18 ANCE.—Of the funds appropriated under subsection
19 (l), the Corporation shall set aside 1 percent which
20 shall be used for conservation technical assistance
21 (as defined in section 10 of the Soil Conservation
22 and Domestic Allotment Act (16 U.S.C. 590j)) to
23 support the implementation of a Corps project on
24 private land, and when relevant, adjacent public land
25 related to the project.

1 “(7) ADMINISTRATION.—Not more than 10 per-
2 cent of a grant awarded under this section may be
3 used for costs of administration, including hiring
4 and paying staff, purchasing and leasing vehicles,
5 acquiring equipment, and carrying out other related
6 activities to support the work of participants.

7 “(j) ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE.—

8 “(1) ENVIRONMENTAL EQUITY RESOURCE CEN-
9 TER.—A State Commission that wishes to allow eli-
10 gible host entities in the State, or associated with a
11 related Indian tribe, to receive grants under sub-
12 section (c) shall establish an Environmental Equity
13 Resource Center for purposes of—

14 “(A) screening for and identifying for pur-
15 poses of this section environmental justice areas
16 as described in paragraph (3);

17 “(B) establishing a board as described in
18 paragraph (2); and

19 “(C) providing technical assistance for eli-
20 gible host entities with worksites in environ-
21 mental justice areas (as identified under this
22 subsection), including by conducting outreach,
23 providing coordination, building capacity, and
24 supporting implementation of projects at such
25 worksites.

1 “(2) COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—An Environmental
3 Equity Resource Center established under para-
4 graph (1) shall establish a community advisory
5 board for an area in which a Corps project is
6 occurring composed of representatives of—

7 “(i) relevant local public health orga-
8 nizations;

9 “(ii) relevant local workforce develop-
10 ment boards (defined individually as a
11 local board in section 3 of the Workforce
12 Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
13 U.S.C. 3102)) within the State of the En-
14 vironmental Equity Resource Center and
15 the State workforce development board
16 (defined individually as a State board in
17 such section) of such State;

18 “(iii) relevant environmental and envi-
19 ronmental justice organizations;

20 “(iv) relevant labor organizations;

21 “(v) relevant Indian tribes;

22 “(vi) community members in an area
23 in which a Corps project is occurring; and

1 “(vii) other organizations or individ-
 2 uals as determined relevant by the Envi-
 3 ronmental Equity Resource Center.

4 “(B) DUTIES.—The community advisory
 5 board established under this paragraph shall—

6 “(i) ensure community engagement,
 7 transparency, and accountability in car-
 8 rying out each stage of a project receiving
 9 funds under this section; and

10 “(ii) track, evaluate, and report
 11 progress on clear and meaningful indica-
 12 tors related to the benefits of the project
 13 as described in subsection (f)(3)(B)(i) and
 14 other relevant factors.

15 “(3) IDENTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AREAS.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this
 17 section, the Environmental Equity Resource
 18 Center established by the State Commission
 19 under paragraph (1) shall, in accordance with
 20 subparagraph (B) or (C), identify environ-
 21 mental justice areas.
 22

23 “(B) IDENTIFICATION IN STATES WITH
 24 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE STANDARDS.—For
 25 States with environmental justice standards

1 under State law, the Environmental Equity Re-
2 source Center in such State shall identify envi-
3 ronmental justice areas based on the State
4 standards and the totality of the factors listed
5 in subparagraph (C) (with the factor in each
6 clause weighing in favor of the area being an
7 environmental justice area).

8 “(C) IDENTIFICATION IN STATES WITHOUT
9 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE STANDARDS.—For
10 States without environmental justice standards
11 under State law, the Environmental Equity Re-
12 source Center in such State shall identify envi-
13 ronmental justice areas based on the totality of
14 the following factors (with the factor in each
15 clause weighing in favor of the area being an
16 environmental justice area):

17 “(i) An area in the State that has a
18 predominately minority, low-income, or
19 Tribal or indigenous population.

20 “(ii) An area in the State that has a
21 disproportionate exposure to an environ-
22 mental hazard or the cumulative effect of
23 environmental hazards, including hazards
24 in the EJSCREEN environmental indica-
25 tors (or any corresponding similar indica-

1 tors) developed by the Environmental Pro-
2 tection Agency.

3 “(iii) An area in the State that has
4 disproportionate vulnerability to an envi-
5 ronmental hazard or the cumulative effect
6 of environmental hazards, including an
7 area that meets EJSCREEN demographic
8 indicators (or any corresponding similar in-
9 dicators) developed by the Environmental
10 Protection Agency.

11 “(iv) An area in the State with high
12 rates of asthma prevalence and incidence.

13 “(v) An area in the State within
14 which drinking water has been contami-
15 nated with lead or perfluoroalkyl or
16 polyfluoroalkyl substances.

17 “(vi) An area in the State with an ad-
18 ditional demographic or environmental fac-
19 tor that the Environmental Equity Re-
20 source Center determines to be appropriate
21 in identifying an area as an environmental
22 justice area for the purpose of Corps
23 projects.

24 “(D) INTERFERENCE WITH STATE ENVI-
25 RONMENTAL JUSTICE AREAS.—Nothing in this

1 section shall be construed as limiting a State
2 from identifying, using factors under this para-
3 graph or otherwise, an area as an environ-
4 mental justice area for purposes other than
5 under this section.

6 “(k) USE OF STEEL, IRON, AND MANUFACTURED
7 GOODS PRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
9 grant funds awarded under this section to an eligible
10 host entity may be obligated for a project if the
11 steel, iron, and manufactured goods used for such
12 project are produced only in the United States.

13 “(2) EXCEPTIONS.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
15 graph (B), paragraph (1) shall not apply in any
16 case, or category of cases, in which the eligible
17 host entity overseeing a project finds that—

18 “(i) applying paragraph (1) would be
19 inconsistent with the public interest;

20 “(ii) the steel, iron, or manufactured
21 goods needed for such project are not pro-
22 duced in the United States in sufficient
23 and reasonably available quantities or in a
24 satisfactory quality; or

1 “(iii) use of steel, iron, or manufac-
2 tured goods produced in the United States
3 will increase the cost of the overall project
4 by more than 25 percent.

5 “(B) WAIVER REQUEST.—If the Corpora-
6 tion or a partnering Federal agency receives a
7 request by an eligible host entity for a waiver
8 under this section for an exception listed in
9 subparagraph (A), the head of the Corporation
10 or partnering Federal agency (referred to in
11 this subparagraph as the ‘agency head’) shall
12 make available to the public a copy of the re-
13 quest and information available to the head of
14 such Federal agency concerning the request,
15 and shall allow for public input on the request
16 for at least 15 days prior to making a finding
17 based on the request. The agency head shall
18 make the request and accompanying informa-
19 tion available by electronic means, including on
20 the official public internet site of the Federal
21 agency involved.

22 “(3) INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS.—The re-
23 quirements under this subsection shall be applied in
24 a manner consistent with the obligations of the
25 United States under international agreements.

1 “(4) APPLICABILITY.—Nothing in this sub-
2 section shall supersede or preempt any existing (as
3 of the date of enactment of this section) requirement
4 to buy or use goods produced only in the United
5 States, to the extent such requirement is more strict
6 than this subsection.

7 “(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
9 appropriated such sums as may be necessary to
10 carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2022
11 through 2025.

12 “(2) DURATION OF AVAILABILITY.—Amounts
13 appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall remain
14 available until expended.

15 **“SEC. 167. CORPORATION ADVISORY COUNCIL.**

16 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the
17 Corporation (as defined in section 101) the Corporation
18 Advisory Council (referred to in this section as the ‘Coun-
19 cil’).

20 “(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

21 “(1) APPOINTMENT.—The Chief Executive Of-
22 ficer shall appoint members of the Council from the
23 groups described in paragraph (2).

24 “(2) COMPOSITION.—The Council shall be com-
25 posed of representatives from—

1 “(A) eligible host entities (as defined in
2 section 166); and

3 “(B) labor organizations.

4 “(c) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT; VACANCIES.—Mem-
5 bers shall be appointed for the life of the Council. Any
6 vacancy in the Council shall not affect the powers of the
7 Council, but shall be filled in the same manner as the
8 original appointment was made.

9 “(d) DUTIES.—

10 “(1) STUDY.—The Council shall study—

11 “(A) the operation of the Corporation (as
12 defined in section 166);

13 “(B) the impact of grants awarded under
14 section 166; and

15 “(C) the outcome of participants in the
16 program created under section 166.

17 “(2) REPORT.—The Council shall prepare an-
18 nual reports on the issues considered under para-
19 graph (1) and submit such reports to the Corpora-
20 tion (as defined in section 101).

21 “(e) PERSONNEL.—

22 “(1) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—The members of the
23 Council shall not receive compensation for the per-
24 formance of services for the Council, but shall be al-
25 lowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of

1 subsistence, at rates authorized for employees of
2 agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5,
3 United States Code, while away from their homes or
4 regular places of business in the performance of
5 services for the Council. Notwithstanding section
6 1342 of title 31, United States Code, the Secretary
7 may accept the voluntary and uncompensated serv-
8 ices of members of the Council.

9 “(2) DETAIL OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.—
10 Any Federal Government employee may be detailed
11 to the Council without reimbursement, and such de-
12 tail shall be without interruption or loss of civil serv-
13 ice status or privilege.

14 “(f) PERMANENT COUNCIL.—Section 14 of the Fed-
15 eral Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not
16 apply to the Council.

17 “(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
19 appropriated to the Council for each fiscal year such
20 sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.

21 “(2) AVAILABILITY.—Any sums appropriated
22 under the authorization contained in this subsection
23 shall remain available, without fiscal year limitation,
24 until expended.”.

1 (b) EXCLUDING CORPS MEMBER ALLOWANCE AND
2 AWARDS FROM GROSS INCOME.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—Part III of subchapter B of
4 chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is
5 amended by inserting after section 112 the following
6 new section:

7 **“SEC. 113. AMOUNTS RECEIVED FROM CIVILIAN CONSERVA-**
8 **TION CORPS.**

9 “In the case of an individual, gross income shall not
10 include any amount received under a civilian conservation
11 corps allowance or award under paragraphs (4) and (5)
12 of section 166(i) of the National and Community Service
13 Act of 1990.”.

14 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
15 tions for part III of subchapter B of chapter 1 of
16 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by
17 inserting after the item relating to section 112 the
18 following new item:

“Sec. 113. Amounts received from Civilian Conservation Corps.”.

19 (3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made
20 by this subsection shall apply to taxable years end-
21 ing after the date of the enactment of this Act.

22 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

23 (1) REFERENCES.—Sections 151 (in the first
24 sentence), 152(a), 159(c)(1)(C), 163(a), 164, and
25 165 (in the matter preceding paragraph (1)) of the

1 National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42
 2 U.S.C. 12611, 12612(a), 12619(c)(1)(C), 12623(a),
 3 12624, and 12625) are amended by striking “this
 4 subtitle” and inserting “this chapter”.

5 (2) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of con-
 6 tents for the National and Community Service Act
 7 of 1990 is amended in the items relating to subtitle
 8 E of title I—

9 (A) by striking the item relating to the
 10 heading for subtitle E and inserting the fol-
 11 lowing:

“Subtitle E—National Corps

“CHAPTER 1—NATIONAL CIVILIAN COMMUNITY CORPS”;

12 and

13 (B) by adding at the end the following:

“CHAPTER 2—CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS

“Sec. 166. Civilian Conservation program.

“Sec. 167. Corporation Advisory Council.”.

14 **SEC. 3. ON-FARM APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM.**

15 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

16 (1) APPRENTICE.—The term “apprentice”
 17 means an individual in an apprenticeship registered
 18 under the Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly known
 19 as the “National Apprenticeship Act”; 50 Stat. 664,
 20 chapter 663; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.).

21 (2) APPRENTICESHIP COSTS.—The term “ap-
 22 prenticeship costs” means the actual costs incurred

1 by an agricultural business in employing an appren-
2 tice through the program, including—

3 (A) wages paid to the apprentice (not in-
4 cluding allowances that are funded through the
5 Civilian Conservation Corps established under
6 section 166 of the National and Community
7 Service Act of 1990, as added by section 2 of
8 this Act);

9 (B) a reasonable allocation of fixed over-
10 head expenses relating to the apprenticeship
11 under the program; and

12 (C) incidental costs directly relating to the
13 apprenticeship under the program.

14 (3) PROGRAM.—The term “program” means
15 the agricultural workforce development program es-
16 tablished under subsection (b).

17 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
18 the Secretary of Agriculture.

19 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
20 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall pro-
21 mulgate regulations to establish an agricultural workforce
22 development program to provide incentives for agricultural
23 businesses to employ apprentices, including employing
24 participants in or applicants for the Civilian Conservation
25 Corps established under section 166 of the National and

1 Community Service Act of 1990, through partial reim-
2 bursement of the apprenticeship costs.

3 (c) REQUIREMENTS.—In the regulations promulgated
4 under subsection (b), the Secretary shall specify, at a min-
5 imum—

6 (1) the criteria for selecting an agricultural
7 business for participation in the program, which
8 shall include—

9 (A) the ability of the agricultural business
10 to effectively supervise an apprentice; and

11 (B) the opportunity for an apprentice to
12 obtain meaningful work experience through the
13 apprenticeship;

14 (2) the process and timeline for selecting agri-
15 cultural businesses and apprentices that are quali-
16 fied to participate in the program;

17 (3) the accounting requirements for tracking
18 apprenticeship costs under the program; and

19 (4) the process for an agricultural business to
20 seek reimbursements for apprenticeship costs under
21 the program.

22 (d) REIMBURSEMENTS.—Under the program, the
23 Secretary shall reimburse an agricultural business in an
24 amount equal to not more than 50 percent of apprentice-
25 ship costs.

1 (e) LIMITATION.—An agricultural business may not
2 be reimbursed under the program for the apprenticeship
3 costs of more than 3 apprentices for any 1 fiscal year.

4 (f) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be
5 construed to change the status of an individual partici-
6 pating in the Civilian Conservation Corps established
7 under section 101(30)(B) of the National and Community
8 Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12511(30)(B)) for pur-
9 poses of chapter 2 of subtitle E of title I of that Act, as
10 added by section 2 of this Act.

11 **SEC. 4. SKILLED TRADE NONDISPLACEMENT.**

12 Section 177(b)(3)(A) of the National and Community
13 Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12637(b)(3)(A)) is amend-
14 ed by striking “employee.” and inserting “employee, in-
15 cluding any employee whose duties require that employee
16 to have passed a trade examination in the skilled trades.”.

○