

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2432

To amend the charter of the Future Farmers of America, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 15, 2018

Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. JONES) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the charter of the Future Farmers of America, 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 “National FFA Organi-
5 zation’s Federal Charter Amendments Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ORGANIZATION.**

7 Section 70901 of title 36, United States Code, is
8 amended—

9 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “corporation”
10 and inserting “FFA”; and

1 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “corporation”
2 and inserting “FFA”.

3 **SEC. 3. PURPOSES OF THE CORPORATION.**

4 Section 70902 of title 36, United States Code, is
5 amended—

6 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by
7 striking “corporation” and inserting “FFA”;

8 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as
9 paragraphs (7) and (8), respectively;

10 (3) by striking paragraphs (3), (4), (6), and
11 (7);

12 (4) by redesignating paragraph (5) as para-
13 graph (11);

14 (5) by redesignating paragraphs (8) and (9) as
15 paragraphs (12) and (13), respectively;

16 (6) by inserting before paragraph (7), as redesi-
17 gnated by paragraph (2), the following:

18 “(1) to be an integral component of instruction
19 in agricultural education, including instruction relat-
20 ing to agriculture, food, and natural resources;

21 “(2) to advance comprehensive agricultural edu-
22 cation in the United States, including in public
23 schools, by supporting contextual classroom and lab-
24 oratory instruction and work-based experiential
25 learning;

1 “(3) to prepare students for successful entry
2 into productive careers in fields relating to agri-
3 culture, food, and natural resources, including by
4 connecting students to relevant postsecondary edu-
5 cational pathways and focusing on the complete de-
6 livery of classroom and laboratory instruction, work-
7 based experiential learning, and leadership develop-
8 ment;

9 “(4) to be a resource and support organization
10 that does not select, control, or supervise State asso-
11 ciation, local chapter, or individual member activi-
12 ties;

13 “(5) to develop educational materials, pro-
14 grams, services, and events as a service to State and
15 local agricultural education agencies;

16 “(6) to seek and promote inclusion and diver-
17 sity in its membership, leadership, and staff to re-
18 flect the belief of the FFA in the value of all human
19 beings;”;

20 (7) in paragraph (7), as redesignated by para-
21 graph (2)—

22 (A) by striking “composed of students and
23 former students of vocational agriculture in
24 public schools qualifying for Federal reimburse-

1 ment under the Smith-Hughes Vocational Edu-
2 cation Act (20 U.S.C. 11–15, 16–28”); and

3 (B) by inserting “as such chapters and as-
4 sociations carry out agricultural education pro-
5 grams that are approved by States, territories,
6 or possessions” after “United States”;

7 (8) in paragraph (8), as redesignated by para-
8 graph (2)—

9 (A) by striking “to develop” and inserting
10 “to build”;

11 (B) by striking “train for useful citizen-
12 ship, and foster patriotism, and thereby” and
13 inserting “and”; and

14 (C) by striking “aggressive rural and” and
15 inserting “assertive”;

16 (9) by inserting after paragraph (8), as redesi-
17 gnated by paragraph (2), the following:

18 “(9) to increase awareness of the global and
19 technological importance of agriculture, food, and
20 natural resources, and the way agriculture contrib-
21 utes to our well-being;

22 “(10) to promote the intelligent choice and es-
23 tablishment of a career in fields relating to agri-
24 culture, food, and natural resources;”;

1 (10) in paragraph (11), as redesignated by
2 paragraph (4)—

3 (A) by striking “to procure for and dis-
4 tribute to State” and inserting “to make avail-
5 able to State”;

6 (B) by inserting “, programs, services,”
7 before “and equipment”; and

8 (C) by striking “corporation” and inserting
9 “FFA”;

10 (11) in paragraph (12), as redesignated by
11 paragraph (5), by striking “State boards for voca-
12 tional” and inserting “State boards and officials for
13 career and technical”; and

14 (12) in paragraph (13), as redesignated by
15 paragraph (5), by striking “corporation” and insert-
16 ing “FFA”.

17 **SEC. 4. MEMBERSHIP.**

18 Section 70903 of title 36, United States Code is
19 amended—

20 (1) in subsection (a)—

21 (A) by striking “corporation” and inserting
22 “FFA”; and

23 (B) by striking “as provided in the by-
24 laws” and inserting “as provided in the con-
25 stitution or bylaws of the FFA”; and

1 (2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the
2 following:

3 “(b) VOTING.—Except as provided in this chapter,
4 the voting rights of members and the election process are
5 as provided in the constitution or bylaws of the FFA.”.

6 **SEC. 5. GOVERNING BODY.**

7 Section 70904 of title 36, United States Code, is
8 amended—

9 (1) in subsection (a)—

10 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “corpora-
11 tion” and inserting “FFA” each place the term
12 appears;

13 (B) by striking paragraphs (2) and (3) and
14 inserting the following:

15 “(2) The board—

16 “(A) shall consist of—

17 “(i) the Secretary of Education, or
18 the Secretary of Education’s designee who
19 has experience in agricultural education,
20 the FFA, or career and technical edu-
21 cation; and

22 “(ii) other individuals—

23 “(I) representing the fields of
24 education, agriculture, food, and nat-
25 ural resources; or

1 “(II) with experience working
2 closely with the FFA; and

3 “(B) shall not include any individual who
4 is a current employee of the National FFA Or-
5 ganization.

6 “(3) The number of directors, terms of office of
7 the directors, and the method of selecting the direc-
8 tors, are as provided in the constitution or bylaws of
9 the FFA.”; and

10 (C) in paragraph (4)—

11 (i) in the first sentence, by striking
12 “bylaws” and inserting “constitution or
13 bylaws of the FFA”; and

14 (ii) in the third sentence, by striking
15 “chairman” and inserting “chair”;

16 (2) by striking subsection (b); and

17 (3) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
18 lowing:

19 “(b) OFFICERS.—The officers of the FFA, the terms
20 of officers, and the election of officers, are as provided
21 in the constitution or bylaws of the FFA, except that such
22 officers shall include—

23 “(1) a national advisor;

24 “(2) an executive secretary; and

25 “(3) a treasurer.

1 “(c) GOVERNING COMMITTEE.—

2 “(1) The board may designate a governing com-
3 mittee. The terms and method of selecting the gov-
4 erning committee members are as provided in the
5 constitution or bylaws of the FFA, except that all
6 members of the governing committee shall be mem-
7 bers of the board of directors and at all times the
8 governing committee shall be comprised of not less
9 than 3 individuals.

10 “(2) When the board is not in session, the gov-
11 erning committee has the powers of the board sub-
12 ject to the board’s direction and may authorize the
13 seal of the FFA to be affixed to all papers that re-
14 quire it.”.

15 **SEC. 6. NATIONAL STUDENT OFFICERS.**

16 Section 70905 of title 36, United States Code, is
17 amended by striking subsections (a) through (d) and in-
18 serting the following:

19 “(a) COMPOSITION.—There shall be not less than 6
20 national student officers of the FFA, which shall include
21 not less than 4 national student officer vice presidents,
22 as provided in the constitution or bylaws of the FFA.

23 “(b) ELECTION.—

24 “(1) The national student officers of the FFA,
25 except student officer vice-presidents, shall be elect-

1 ed annually by a majority vote of official delegates
2 assembled at the annual convention. Elections for
3 not less than 4 national student officer vice presi-
4 dents shall be based upon regional representation as
5 further detailed in the constitution or bylaws of the
6 FFA.

7 “(2) The voting rights of delegates and the
8 process of electing the national student officers shall
9 be as provided in the constitution or bylaws of the
10 FFA.”.

11 **SEC. 7. POWERS.**

12 Section 70906 of title 36, United States Code, is
13 amended—

14 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by
15 striking “corporation” and inserting “FFA”;

16 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “corporate”;

17 (3) in paragraph (4), by striking “corporation”
18 and inserting “FFA”;

19 (4) in paragraph (6), by striking “corporation”
20 and inserting “FFA”;

21 (5) by amending paragraph (8) to read as fol-
22 lows:

23 “(8) use FFA funds to give prizes, awards,
24 loans, and grants to deserving members, chapters,

1 and associations to carry out the purposes of the
2 FFA;”;

3 (6) by amending paragraph (9) to read as fol-
4 lows:

5 “(9) produce publications, websites, and other
6 media;”;

7 (7) in paragraph (10)—

8 (A) by striking “procure for and distribute
9 to State” and inserting “make available to
10 State”; and

11 (B) by striking “Future Farmers of Amer-
12 ica” and inserting “FFA”; and

13 (8) in paragraph (12), by striking “corpora-
14 tion” and inserting “FFA”.

15 **SEC. 8. NAME, SEALS, EMBLEMS, AND BADGES.**

16 Section 70907 of title 36, United States Code, is
17 amended—

18 (1) by striking “corporation” and inserting
19 “FFA” each place the term appears;

20 (2) by striking “name” and inserting “names”;

21 (3) by striking “‘Future Farmers of America’ ”
22 and inserting “‘Future Farmers of America’ and
23 ‘National FFA Organization,’ ”; and

24 (4) by inserting “education” before “member-
25 ship”.

1 **SEC. 9. RESTRICTIONS.**

2 Section 70908 of title 36, United States Code, is
3 amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “corporation”
5 and inserting “FFA”;

6 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “corporation
7 or a director, officer, or member as such” and in-
8 serting “FFA or a director, officer, or member act-
9 ing on behalf of the FFA”;

10 (3) in subsection (c), by striking “corporation”
11 and inserting “FFA” each place the term appears;
12 and

13 (4) in subsection (d)—

14 (A) in the first sentence, by striking “cor-
15 poration” and inserting “FFA”; and

16 (B) by striking “Directors who vote for or
17 assent to making a loan to a director, officer,
18 or employee, and officers who participate in
19 making the loan, are jointly and severally liable
20 to the corporation for the amount of the loan
21 until it is repaid.”.

22 **SEC. 10. RELATIONSHIP TO FEDERAL AGENCIES.**

23 Section 70909 of title 36, United States Code, is
24 amended to read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 70909. RELATIONSHIP TO FEDERAL AGENCIES.**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—On request of the board of direc-
3 tors, the FFA may collaborate with Federal agencies, in-
4 cluding the Department of Education and the Department
5 of Agriculture on matters of mutual interest and benefit.

6 “(b) AGENCY ASSISTANCE.—Those Federal agencies
7 may make personnel, services, and facilities available to
8 administer or assist in the administration of the activities
9 of the FFA.

10 “(c) AGENCY COMPENSATION.—Personnel of the
11 Federal agencies may not receive compensation from the
12 FFA for their services, except that travel and other legiti-
13 mate expenses as defined by the Federal agencies and ap-
14 proved by the board may be paid.

15 “(d) COOPERATION WITH STATE BOARDS.—The
16 Federal agencies also may cooperate with State boards
17 and other organizations for career and technical education
18 to assist in the promotion of activities of the FFA.”.

19 **SEC. 11. HEADQUARTERS AND PRINCIPAL OFFICE.**

20 Section 70910 of title 36, United States Code, is
21 amended by striking “of the corporation shall be in the
22 District of Columbia. However, the activities of the cor-
23 poration are not confined to the District of Columbia but”
24 and inserting “of the FFA shall be as provided in the con-
25 stitution or bylaws of the FFA. The activities of the
26 FFA”.

1 **SEC. 12. RECORDS AND INSPECTION.**

2 Section 709011 of title 36, United States Code, is
3 amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a)—

5 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “corpora-
6 tion” and inserting “FFA”; and

7 (B) in paragraph (3), by striking “entitled
8 to vote”; and

9 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “corporation”
10 and inserting “FFA”.

11 **SEC. 13. SERVICE OF PROCESS.**

12 Section 70912 of title 36, United States Code, is
13 amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a)—

15 (A) by striking “DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA”
16 and inserting “IN GENERAL”;

17 (B) by striking “corporation” and insert-
18 ing “FFA” each place the term appears;

19 (C) by striking “in the District of Colum-
20 bia” before “to receive”; and

21 (D) by striking “Designation of the agent
22 shall be filed in the office of the clerk of the
23 United States District Court for the District of
24 Columbia”; and

25 (2) in subsection (b)—

1 (A) by striking “corporation” and inserting
2 “FFA” each place the term appears; and

3 (B) by inserting “of the FFA” after “asso-
4 ciation or chapter”.

5 **SEC. 14. LIABILITY FOR ACTS OF OFFICERS OR AGENTS.**

6 Section 70913 of title 36, United States Code, is
7 amended by striking “corporation” and inserting “FFA”.

8 **SEC. 15. DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS IN DISSOLUTION OR**
9 **FINAL LIQUIDATION.**

10 Section 70914 of title 36, United States Code, is
11 amended—

12 (1) by striking “corporation” and inserting
13 “FFA”; and

14 (2) by striking “vocational agriculture” and in-
15 serting “agricultural education”.

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