To reform the Federal sugar program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 26, 2019

Mrs. Shaheen (for herself, Mr. Toomey, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Casey, Ms. Collins, Mr. Durbin, Mrs. Feinstein, Ms. Hassan, Mr. Menendez, Mr. Coons, Mr. Portman, Mr. Warner, Ms. Warren, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Kaine, and Mr. Markey) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To reform the Federal sugar program, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Fair Sugar Policy Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. SUGAR PROGRAM.

Section 156(a) of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7272(a)) is amended—
(1) in paragraph (4), by striking “and” at the end; and

(2) in paragraph (5), by striking “each of the 2019 through 2023 crop years.” and inserting the following: “the 2019 crop year; and

“(6) 18.75 cents per pound for raw cane sugar for each of the 2020 through 2024 crop years.”.

SEC. 3. FLEXIBLE MARKETING ALLOTMENTS FOR SUGAR REPEALED.

Part VII of subtitle B of title III of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359aa et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

“PART VII—ADMINISTRATION OF TARIFF RATE QUOTAS

“SEC. 359a. TARIFF RATE QUOTAS.

“(a) In General.—At the beginning of each quota year, the Secretary shall establish the tariff-rate quotas for raw cane sugar and refined sugar at a level that is not less than the minimum level necessary to comply with obligations under international trade agreements that Congress has approved.

“(b) Adjustment.—

“(1) In General.—Subject to subsection (a), the Secretary shall adjust the tariff-rate quotas for raw cane sugar and refined sugar to provide ade-
quate supplies of sugar at reasonable prices in the
domestic market.

“(2) ENDING STOCKS.—Subject to paragraphs
(1) and (3), the Secretary shall establish and adjust
tariff-rate quotas so that the ratio of sugar stocks
to total sugar use at the end of each quota year
shall be approximately 15.5 percent.

“(3) MAINTENANCE OF REASONABLE PRICES
AND AVOIDANCE OF FORFEITURES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may es-

tablish a different target percentage for the
ratio of ending stocks to total use described in
paragraph (2) if the Secretary determines the
different target percentage is necessary to pre-
vent—

“(i) unreasonably high prices; or

“(ii) forfeitures of sugar pledged as
collateral for a loan under section 156 of
the Federal Agriculture Improvement and

“(B) ANNOUNCEMENT.—The Secretary
shall publicly announce an establishment of a
target percentage under this paragraph.

“(4) CONSIDERATIONS.—In establishing tariff-
rate quotas under subsection (a) and making adjust-
ments under this subsection, the Secretary shall con-
sider the impact of the quotas on consumers, work-
ers, businesses (including small businesses), and ag-
gricultural producers.

“(c) TEMPORARY TRANSFER OF QUOTAS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—To promote the full use of
the tariff-rate quotas for raw cane sugar and refined
sugar established or adjusted under subsection (a)
or (b), respectively, the Secretary shall promulgate
regulations that provide that a country that has
been allocated a share of the quotas may temporarily
transfer all or part of the share to another country
that has also been allocated a share of the quotas.

“(2) TRANSFERS VOLUNTARY.—A transfer
under this subsection shall be valid only on vol-
untary agreement between the transferor and the
transferee, consistent with procedures established by
the Secretary.

“(3) TRANSFERS TEMPORARY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A transfer under this
subsection shall be valid only for the duration
of the quota year during which the transfer is
made.

“(B) FOLLOWING QUOTA YEAR.—No
transfer under this subsection shall affect the
share of the quota allocated to the transferor or transferee for the following quota year.”.

SEC. 4. REPEAL OF FEEDSTOCK FLEXIBILITY PROGRAM FOR BIOENERGY PRODUCERS.

Section 9010 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8110) is repealed.