

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 4386

To amend the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a program under which the Secretary shall award competitive grants to eligible entities for the purpose of establishing and enhancing farming and ranching opportunities for veterans, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 22, 2024

Mr. MORAN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

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## A BILL

To amend the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a program under which the Secretary shall award competitive grants to eligible entities for the purpose of establishing and enhancing farming and ranching opportunities for veterans, 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 “Colonel Gary La-  
5 Grange AgVets Act of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. AGRICULTURE GRANTS FOR VETERAN EDUCATION**  
2 **AND TRAINING SERVICES.**

3 Title IV of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and  
4 Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7624 et seq.)  
5 is amended by adding at the end the following:

6 **“SEC. 414. AGRICULTURE GRANTS FOR VETERAN EDU-**  
7 **CATION AND TRAINING SERVICES.**

8 “(a) DEFINITION OF VETERAN.—In this section, the  
9 term ‘veteran’ has the meaning given the term in section  
10 101 of title 38, United States Code.

11 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall estab-  
12 lish a program under which the Secretary shall award  
13 competitive grants to eligible entities described in sub-  
14 section (c) for the purpose of establishing and enhancing  
15 farming and ranching opportunities for veterans.

16 “(c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—An entity is eligible for  
17 a grant under this section if the entity is—

18 “(1) a cooperative extension service (as defined  
19 in section 1404 of the National Agricultural Re-  
20 search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977  
21 (7 U.S.C. 3103));

22 “(2) a land-grant college or university (as de-  
23 fined in that section);

24 “(3) a non-land-grant college of agriculture (as  
25 defined in that section);

1           “(4) a Hispanic-serving agricultural college or  
2 university (as defined in that section);

3           “(5) a State department of agriculture;

4           “(6) a nonprofit organization;

5           “(7) a community-based organization; or

6           “(8) a combination of 2 or more eligible entities  
7 described in paragraphs (1) through (7).

8           “(d) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity that receives  
9 a grant under this section shall use the funds received  
10 through the grant—

11           “(1) to provide training and classroom edu-  
12 cation that lead to a comprehensive understanding  
13 of farm and ranch business operations and manage-  
14 ment practices;

15           “(2) to develop or identify curricula that vet-  
16 eran farmers and ranchers can adopt to help man-  
17 age their enterprises;

18           “(3) to offer education, workshops, tours, and  
19 instructor-supervised field experiences; or

20           “(4) to support any other activity, as identified  
21 by the Secretary, to increase the number of veterans  
22 pursuing knowledge and skills development in agri-  
23 culture.

24           “(e) MATCHING FUNDS.—An eligible entity that re-  
25 ceives a grant under this section shall provide non-Federal

1 matching funds for the purposes of carrying out this sec-  
2 tion in an amount equal to not less than the amount of  
3 the grant.

4 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
5 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
6 \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through 2029.”.

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