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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R.

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To strike references to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in Federal law, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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# A BILL

To strike references to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in Federal law, 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. STRIKING REFERENCES TO SOCIALLY DIS-**  
4 **ADVANTAGED FARMERS AND RANCHERS IN**  
5 **FEDERAL LAW.**

6 (a) Section 524(a)(3) of the Federal Crop Insurance  
7 Act (7 U.S.C. 1524(a)(3)) is amended—

8 (1) by striking subparagraph (C); and

1           (2) by redesignating subparagraphs (D)  
2           through (F) as subparagraphs (C) through (E), re-  
3           spectively.

4           (b) Section 210A of the Agricultural Marketing Act  
5 of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1627e) is amended—

6           (1) in subsection (a)—

7                 (A) by striking paragraph (11); and

8                 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (12) and  
9                 (13) as paragraphs (11) and (12), respectively;

10           (2) in subsection (d)(5)(C)(i)—

11                 (A) by striking subclause (II); and

12                 (B) by redesignating subclauses (III) and  
13                 (IV) as subclauses (II) and (III), respectively;  
14           and

15           (3) in subsection (i)(3)(A)(ii)(II)—

16                 (A) in the subclause heading, by striking  
17                 “BEGINNING, VETERAN, AND SOCIALLY DIS-  
18                 ADVANTAGED” and inserting “BEGINNING AND  
19                 VETERAN”; and

20                 (B) by striking “beginning, veteran, and  
21                 socially disadvantaged” and inserting “begin-  
22                 ning and veteran”.

23           (c) The Consolidated Farm and Rural Development  
24 Act (7 U.S.C. 1921 et seq.) is amended—

25           (1) in section 304 (7 U.S.C. 1924)—

1 (A) in subsection (d)(1), by striking “and  
2 socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers”;  
3 and

4 (B) in subsection (e)(2), by striking “so-  
5 cially disadvantaged farmer or rancher or a”;  
6 (2) in section 310B(e) (7 U.S.C. 1932(e))—

7 (A) by striking paragraph (11); and

8 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (12) and  
9 (13) as paragraphs (11) and (12), respectively;  
10 (3) in section 310E (7 U.S.C. 1935)—

11 (A) in subsection (d)(4)—

12 (i) in subparagraph (A), by adding  
13 “or” at the end;

14 (ii) by striking subparagraph (B);

15 (iii) by redesignating subparagraph  
16 (C) as subparagraph (B); and

17 (iv) in subparagraph (B), as so reded-  
18 icated, by striking “; and” at the end;

19 and

20 (B) in subsection (e)—

21 (i) in paragraph (1), by adding “and”  
22 at the end;

23 (ii) by striking paragraph (2); and

24 (iii) by redesignating paragraph (3) as  
25 paragraph (2);

1 (4) in section 310F (7 U.S.C. 1936)—

2 (A) in the section heading, by striking  
3 **“AND SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMER**  
4 **OR RANCHER”**;

5 (B) in subsection (a), by striking “or so-  
6 cially disadvantaged farmer or rancher (as de-  
7 fined in section 355(e)(2))”;

8 (C) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “or  
9 socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher”;

10 (D) in subsection (c)(1), by striking “or  
11 socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher”; and

12 (E) in subsection (f), by striking “and So-  
13 cially Disadvantaged Farmer or Rancher” each  
14 place it appears;

15 (5) in section 310I (7 U.S.C. 1936c)—

16 (A) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “so-  
17 cially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers (as  
18 defined in subsection (a) of section 2501 of the  
19 Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act  
20 of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279)) or”; and

21 (B) by amending subsection (d) to read as  
22 follows:

23 “(d) PREFERENCE.—In making loans under sub-  
24 section (a), the Secretary shall give preference to eligible  
25 entities in States that have adopted a statute consisting

1 of an enactment or adoption of the Uniform Partition of  
2 Heirs Property Act, as approved and recommended for en-  
3 actment in all States by the National Conference of Com-  
4 missioners on Uniform State Laws in 2010, that relend  
5 to owners of heirs property (as defined in that Act).”;

6 (6) in section 333B(c)(3)(A) (7 U.S.C.  
7 1983b(c)(3)(A)), by striking “, including, as appro-  
8 priate, socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers  
9 (as defined in section 355(e)(2))”;

10 (7) in section 352(c) (7 U.S.C. 2000(c)), by  
11 amending paragraph (4) to read as follows:

12 “(4) The period of occupancy allowed the prior owner  
13 of homestead property under this section shall be the pe-  
14 riod requested in writing by the prior owner, except that  
15 such period shall not exceed 5 years.”; and

16 (8) by striking section 355 (7 U.S.C. 2003).

17 (d) Section 5413 of the Agriculture Improvement Act  
18 of 2018 (7 U.S.C. 2008x) is amended—

19 (1) in subsection (b)(1)(C), by striking “and so-  
20 cially disadvantaged”; and

21 (2) in subsection (c)(1)(B), by striking “and so-  
22 cially disadvantaged”.

23 (e) Section 2501 of the Food, Agriculture, Conserva-  
24 tion, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279) is amend-  
25 ed—

1 (1) in subsection (a)—

2 (A) by striking paragraphs (5) and (6);

3 and

4 (B) by redesignating paragraph (7) as  
5 paragraph (5);

6 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “socially dis-  
7 advantaged farmers and ranchers, veteran farmers  
8 and ranchers,” and inserting “veteran farmers and  
9 ranchers”; and

10 (3) in subsection (c)—

11 (A) in the subsection heading, by striking  
12 “SOCIALY DISADVANTAGED AND”;

13 (B) in paragraph (1)—

14 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

15 (I) in clause (i), by striking “so-  
16 cially disadvantaged farmers and  
17 ranchers and”; and

18 (II) in clause (ii), by striking  
19 “socially disadvantaged farmers or  
20 ranchers and”;

21 (ii) by striking subparagraphs (E) and  
22 (F); and

23 (iii) by redesignating subparagraph  
24 (G) as subparagraph (E);

1 (C) in paragraph (3)(B)(i), by striking  
2 “socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers  
3 and”;

4 (D) in paragraph (4)—

5 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
6 “socially disadvantaged farmers and ranch-  
7 ers and”;

8 (ii) in subparagraph (D)—

9 (I) by striking clauses (iii) and  
10 (iv);

11 (II) by redesignating clauses (v)  
12 through (vii) as clauses (iii) through  
13 (v), respectively;

14 (III) in clause (iv), as so redesign-  
15 ated, by striking “and socially dis-  
16 advantaged farmers or ranchers”; and

17 (IV) in clause (v), as so redesign-  
18 ated, by striking “clause (vi)” and  
19 inserting “clause (iv)”; and

20 (iii) in subparagraph (F), by striking  
21 “socially disadvantaged farmers and ranch-  
22 ers or”; and

23 (E) by striking paragraph (5);

24 (4) in subsection (f)—

25 (A) by striking paragraph (2);

1 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (3)  
2 through (7) as paragraphs (2) through (6), re-  
3 spectively; and

4 (C) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated—

5 (i) in subparagraph (A), by adding  
6 “or” at the end;

7 (ii) by striking subparagraph (B); and

8 (iii) by redesignating subparagraph  
9 (C) as subparagraph (B);

10 (5) in subsection (g)(2), by striking “socially  
11 disadvantaged farmers and ranchers or”;

12 (6) by striking subsections (h) and (j);

13 (7) by redesignating subsections (i), (k), and (l)  
14 as subsections (h), (i), and (j), respectively;

15 (8) in subsection (i), as so redesignated—

16 (A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking “and  
17 members of socially disadvantaged groups”; and

18 (B) in paragraph (2)—

19 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
20 “and members of socially disadvantaged  
21 groups”;

22 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by adding  
23 “and” at the end;

24 (iii) by striking subparagraphs (C)  
25 and (E);

1 (iv) by redesignating subparagraph  
2 (D) as subparagraph (C); and

3 (v) in subparagraph (C), as so reded-  
4 igned, by striking “; and” and inserting  
5 a period; and

6 (9) in subsection (j)(4)(A), as redesignated by  
7 paragraph (7)—

8 (A) in clause (i), by adding “and” at the  
9 end;

10 (B) by striking clause (ii); and

11 (C) by redesignating clause (iii) as clause  
12 (ii).

13 (f) The Federal Crop Insurance Reform and Depart-  
14 ment of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C.  
15 6901 et seq.) is amended—

16 (1) in section 226B (7 U.S.C. 6934)—

17 (A) in subsection (a), by striking para-  
18 graph (3);

19 (B) in subsection (b)(1)(B)—

20 (i) by striking clause (iii); and

21 (ii) by redesignating clauses (iv) and  
22 (v) as clauses (iii) and (iv), respectively;

23 (C) in subsection (c)—

24 (i) in the matter preceding paragraph  
25 (1), by striking “veteran farmers and

1 ranchers, and socially disadvantaged farm-  
2 ers or ranchers” and inserting “and vet-  
3 eran farmers and ranchers”;

4 (ii) in paragraph (1), by striking “so-  
5 cially disadvantaged,”; and

6 (iii) in paragraph (5), by striking  
7 “veteran farmers or ranchers, and socially  
8 disadvantaged farmers or ranchers” and  
9 inserting “and veteran farmers or ranch-  
10 ers”;

11 (D) by striking subsection (d); and

12 (E) by redesignating subsections (e) and  
13 (f) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively; and  
14 (2) by striking section 305 (7 U.S.C. 2279a).

15 (g) Section 201 of division HH of the Consolidated  
16 Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117–328; 136 Stat.  
17 5971) is repealed.

18 (h) Section 196 of the Federal Agriculture Improve-  
19 ment and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7333) is amend-  
20 ed—

21 (1) in subsection (k)(2), by striking “, begin-  
22 ning, or socially disadvantaged” and inserting “or  
23 beginning”; and

24 (2) in subsection (l)(3)—

1 (A) in the paragraph heading, by striking  
2 “VETERAN, AND SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED”  
3 and inserting “AND VETERAN”; and

4 (B) by striking “, beginning, and socially  
5 disadvantaged” and inserting “and beginning”.

6 (i) Section 405(c) of the Agricultural Research, Ex-  
7 tension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C.  
8 7625(c)) is amended by striking “socially disadvantaged  
9 farmers,”.

10 (j) Section 9011 of the Farm Security and Rural In-  
11 vestment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8111) is amended—

12 (1) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (9);

13 and

14 (2) in subsection (c)—

15 (A) in paragraph (2)(B), by amending  
16 clause (v) to read as follows:

17 “(v) the participation rate by begin-  
18 ning farmers or ranchers (as defined in ac-  
19 cordance with section 343(a) of the Con-  
20 solidated Farm and Rural Development  
21 Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a)));”; and

22 (B) in paragraph (5), by amending sub-  
23 paragraph (B) to read as follows:

24 “(B) AMOUNT OF ESTABLISHMENT PAY-  
25 MENTS.—The amount of an establishment pay-

1           ment under this subsection shall be not more  
2           than 50 percent of the costs of establishing an  
3           eligible perennial crop covered by the contract  
4           but not to exceed \$500 per acre, including—

5                   “(i) the cost of seeds and stock for  
6                   perennials;

7                   “(ii) the cost of planting the perennial  
8                   crop, as determined by the Secretary; and

9                   “(iii) in the case of nonindustrial pri-  
10                  vate forestland, the costs of site prepara-  
11                  tion and tree planting.”.

12           (k) The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008  
13 (7 U.S.C. 8701 et seq.) is amended—

14                   (1) in section 1101(d) (7 U.S.C. 8711(d)), by  
15                   amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

16                           “(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not  
17                           apply to a farm owned by a limited resource farmer  
18                           or rancher, as defined by the Secretary.”; and

19                   (2) in section 1302(d) (7 U.S.C. 8752(d)), by  
20                   amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

21                           “(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not  
22                           apply to a farm owned by a limited resource farmer  
23                           or rancher, as defined by the Secretary.”.

24           (l) The Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9001 et  
25 seq.) is amended—

1 (1) in section 1114(d)(2) (7 U.S.C.  
2 9014(d)(2))—

3 (A) by striking subparagraph (A); and  
4 (B) by redesignating subparagraphs (B)  
5 through (D) as subparagraphs (A) through (C),  
6 respectively;

7 (2) in section 1404(c)(4) (7 U.S.C. 9054(c)(4)),  
8 by striking “veteran, or socially disadvantaged” and  
9 inserting “or veteran”; and

10 (3) in section 1501(a)(1)(A) (7 U.S.C.  
11 9081(a)(1)(A))—

12 (A) in clause (i), by adding “or” at the  
13 end;

14 (B) by striking clause (ii); and

15 (C) by redesignating clause (iii) as clause  
16 (ii).

17 (m) Subclause (III) of section 8(b)(5)(B)(iii) of the  
18 Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (16 U.S.C.  
19 590h(b)(5)(B)(iii)) is amended to read as follows:

20 “(III) NOMINATIONS.—To be eli-  
21 gible for nomination and election to  
22 the applicable county, area, or local  
23 committee, as determined by the Sec-  
24 retary, an agricultural producer shall  
25 be located within the area under the

1 jurisdiction of a county, area, or local  
2 committee, and participate or cooper-  
3 ate in programs administered within  
4 that area.”.

5 (n) Section 402A(b) of the Agricultural Credit Act  
6 of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2202a(b)) is amended by striking “,  
7 a socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher (as defined in  
8 subsection (a) of section 2501 of the Food, Agriculture,  
9 Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279),”.

10 (o) Section 623 of the Agricultural Credit Act of  
11 1987 (7 U.S.C. 1985 note) is repealed.

12 (p) The Food Security Act of 1985 (Public Law 99–  
13 198; 99 Stat. 1504) is amended—

14 (1) in section 1201(a) (16 U.S.C. 3801(a))—

15 (A) by striking paragraph (23); and

16 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (24)  
17 through (27) as paragraphs (23) through (26),  
18 respectively;

19 (2) in section 1231C(b)(3)(E) (16 U.S.C.  
20 3831c(b)(3)(E))—

21 (A) in the subparagraph heading, by strik-  
22 ing “SOCIALY DISADVANTAGED,”;

23 (B) in the matter preceding clause (i), by  
24 striking “socially disadvantaged,”; and

1 (C) in clause (i)(II), by striking “socially  
2 disadvantaged,”;

3 (3) in section 1240B(d)(4)(A) (16 U.S.C.  
4 3839aa-2(d)(4)(A)), by striking “socially disadvan-  
5 taged farmer or rancher,”;

6 (4) in section 1241(h) (16 U.S.C. 3841(h)), by  
7 amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

8 “(1) ASSISTANCE.—

9 “(A) FISCAL YEARS 2009 THROUGH 2018.—

10 Of the funds made available for each of fiscal  
11 years 2009 through 2018 to carry out the envi-  
12 ronmental quality incentives program and the  
13 acres made available for each of such fiscal  
14 years to carry out the conservation stewardship  
15 program, the Secretary shall use, to the max-  
16 imum extent practicable, 5 percent to assist be-  
17 ginning farmers or ranchers.

18 “(B) FISCAL YEARS 2019 THROUGH 2031.—

19 Of the funds made available for each of fiscal  
20 years 2019 through 2031 to carry out the envi-  
21 ronmental quality incentives program under  
22 subchapter A of chapter 4 of subtitle D and the  
23 conservation stewardship program under sub-  
24 chapter B of chapter 4 of subtitle D, the Sec-  
25 retary shall use, to the maximum extent prac-

1            ticable, 5 percent to assist beginning farmers or  
2            ranchers.”; and  
3            (5) in section 1271E(d) (16 U.S.C. 3871e(d)),  
4            by striking “socially disadvantaged farmers and  
5            ranchers,”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON RACIAL AND GENDER PREF-**  
7            **ERENCES IN USDA PROGRAMS.**

8            Notwithstanding any other law, no program of the  
9            Department of Agriculture may provide any preference,  
10           priority consideration, or enhanced benefits to any indi-  
11           vidual or entity on the basis of race or gender.