

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2980

To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to permit the enrollment of certain wetland, buffers, and filterstrips in the conservation reserve.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 27, 2000

Mr. DASCHLE (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry

A BILL

To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to permit the enrollment of certain wetland, buffers, and filterstrips in the conservation reserve.

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. ENROLLMENT OF CERTAIN WETLAND, BUFF-**
4 **ERS, AND FILTERSTRIPS IN CONSERVATION**
5 **RESERVE.**

6 (a) PILOT PROGRAM.—Section 1231 of the Food Se-
7 curity Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831) is amended by adding
8 at the end the following:

9 “(h) WETLAND, BUFFERS, AND FILTERSTRIPS.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—During the 2000 and 2001
2 calendar years, the Secretary shall carry out a pilot
3 program in the State of South Dakota under which
4 the Secretary may include in the program estab-
5 lished under this subchapter—

6 “(A) wetland that was cropped during at
7 least 1 of the immediately preceding 10 crop
8 years; and

9 “(B) acreage that—

10 “(i) is contiguous to the wetland;

11 “(ii) is used as a buffer or filterstrip
12 to protect the wetland; and

13 “(iii) is of such width as the Secretary
14 determines is necessary to protect the wet-
15 land, taking into consideration and accom-
16 modating the farming practices (including
17 the straightening of boundaries to accom-
18 modate machinery) used with respect to
19 the cropland that surrounds the wetland.

20 “(2) PAYMENTS.—The annual rental payment
21 made to an owner or operator under this subchapter
22 for acreage that is wetland, buffers, and filterstrips
23 entered into the conservation reserve under this sub-
24 section shall reflect—

1 “(A) the farm operating costs incurred by
 2 the owner or operator that are associated with
 3 the removal of the acreage from production;
 4 and

5 “(B) the benefits to the improvement of
 6 water quality, the reduction of flooding and soil
 7 erosion, and the improvement of wildlife habitat
 8 associated with the entry of the acreage into the
 9 conservation reserve.

10 “(3) MAXIMUM ENROLLMENT.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may in-
 12 clude in the conservation reserve not more than
 13 150,000 acres under this subsection.

14 “(B) RELATIONSHIP TO PROGRAM MAX-
 15 IMUM.—For the purposes of subsection (d), any
 16 acreage included in the conservation reserve
 17 under this subsection shall be considered acres
 18 maintained in the conservation reserve.”.

19 (b) INCIDENTAL GRAZING.—Section
 20 1232(a)(7)(A)(ii) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16
 21 U.S.C. 3832(a)(7)(A)(ii)) is amended by inserting “, in
 22 the case of land that is not devoted to a filterstrip,” before
 23 “occurs”.

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