

111TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3809

To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to require the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out a conservation program under which the Secretary shall make payments to assist owners and operators of muck land to conserve and improve the soil, water, and wildlife resources of the land.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 21, 2010

Mrs. GILLIBRAND 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 Food Security Act of 1985 to require the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out a conservation program under which the Secretary shall make payments to assist owners and operators of muck land to conserve and improve the soil, water, and wildlife resources of the land.

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. MUCK SOILS CONSERVATION.**

4       Chapter 5 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Secu-  
5       rity Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb et seq.) is amended  
6       by adding at the end the following:

1 **“SEC. 1240S. MUCK SOILS CONSERVATION.**

2       “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall carry  
3 out a conservation program (referred to in this section as  
4 the ‘program’) under which the Secretary shall make pay-  
5 ments to assist owners and operators of eligible land speci-  
6 fied in subsection (b) to conserve and improve the soil,  
7 water, and wildlife resources of the land.

8       “(b) ELIGIBLE LAND.—To be eligible for inclusion  
9 in the program, the land shall—

10           “(1) be comprised of soil that qualifies as  
11 muck, as determined by the Secretary;

12           “(2) be used for production of an agricultural  
13 crop;

14           “(3) have a spring cover crop planted in con-  
15 junction with the primary agricultural crop referred  
16 to in paragraph (2);

17           “(4) have a winter crop planted; and

18           “(5) have ditch banks seeded with grass that is  
19 maintained on a year-round basis.

20       “(c) PAYMENT AMOUNTS.—The Secretary may pro-  
21 vide payments of not less than \$300, but not more than  
22 \$500, per acre per year under the program.

23       “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
24 is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry

- 1 out the program \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2011
- 2 and 2012.”.

