

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to provide for the enrollment of citrus land in the conservation reserve program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. RUBIO introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to provide for the enrollment of citrus land in the conservation reserve program, 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 “Conservation Reserve
5 Program Amendments Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM AMENDMENTS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1231 of the Food Security
8 Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831) is amended—

9 (1) in subsection (b)(5)—

1 (A) in subparagraph (D), by striking “or”
2 at the end;

3 (B) in subparagraph (E), by inserting “or”
4 at the end; and

5 (C) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(F) the land has, during the 10-year pe-
7 riod preceding the date of enactment of this
8 subparagraph, been used to plant a citrus
9 crop;”; and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(j) CITRUS LAND.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In enrolling acres of citrus
13 land described in subsection (b)(5)(F) in the con-
14 servation reserve, the Secretary shall enroll the land
15 using the continuous enrollment procedure described
16 in subsection (d)(6).

17 “(2) PRIORITY.—In enrolling acres of citrus
18 land described in subsection (b)(5)(F) in the con-
19 servation reserve, the Secretary may give priority to
20 land that, as determined by the Secretary—

21 “(A) is at risk of conversion or develop-
22 ment;

23 “(B) is affected by huanglongbing; or

24 “(C) is of ecological significance, including
25 land that—

1 “(i) may assist in the restoration of
2 threatened or endangered species under
3 the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16
4 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.);

5 “(ii) may assist in preventing a spe-
6 cies from being listed as a threatened or
7 endangered species under that Act; or

8 “(iii) improves or creates wildlife habi-
9 tat corridors.

10 “(3) INCIDENTAL LAND.—In enrolling land in
11 the conservation reserve, land owned by an owner of
12 citrus land described in subsection (b)(5)(F) that is
13 incidental to agricultural production may be consid-
14 ered for enrollment if the Secretary determines that
15 the incidental land is at risk of conversion or devel-
16 opment and is of ecological significance as described
17 in paragraph (2)(C).

18 “(4) FALLOW GROVES.—Not later than 180
19 days after the later of the first day of the period of
20 enrollment of citrus land described in subsection
21 (b)(5)(F) in the conservation reserve and the date
22 on which Secretary notifies an owner or operator of
23 the decision of the Secretary to enroll citrus land de-
24 scribed in subsection (b)(5)(F) in the conservation
25 reserve, the owner or operator of the citrus land en-

1 rolled in the conservation reserve shall provide evi-
2 dence to the Secretary that any fallow groves that
3 are affected by huanglongbing within the enrolled
4 area have been removed.

5 “(5) DURATION OF CONTRACTS.—For the pur-
6 pose of carrying out enrollment of citrus land de-
7 scribed in subsection (b)(5)(F), the Secretary shall
8 enter into contracts of not less than 1, and not more
9 than 5, years.

10 “(6) LIMITATIONS.—For each of fiscal years
11 2024 through 2028, the total acreage of citrus land
12 described in subsection (b)(5)(F) enrolled in the con-
13 servation reserve shall not exceed 100,000 acres.”.

14 (b) EXCLUSION OF ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME LIMI-
15 TATION.—Section 1001D(b)(2)(C) of the Food Security
16 Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308–3a(b)(2)(C)) is amended by
17 striking “the Food Security Act of 1985.” and inserting
18 “this Act (other than a payment or benefit under the con-
19 servation reserve program under subchapter B of chapter
20 1 of subtitle D of that title with respect to citrus land
21 described in section 1231(b)(5)(F)).”.