

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1275

To support State and tribal government efforts to promote research and education related to maple syrup production, natural resource sustainability in the maple syrup industry, market promotion of maple products, and greater access to lands containing maple trees for maple-sugaring activities, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 30, 2011

Mr. WELCH (for himself and Mr. OWENS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

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## A BILL

To support State and tribal government efforts to promote research and education related to maple syrup production, natural resource sustainability in the maple syrup industry, market promotion of maple products, and greater access to lands containing maple trees for maple-sugaring activities, 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 “Maple Tapping Access  
5        Program Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SUPPORT FOR STATE AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENT**  
2 **EFFORTS TO PROMOTE DOMESTIC MAPLE**  
3 **SYRUP INDUSTRY.**

4 (a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED; AUTHORIZED ACTIVI-  
5 TIES.—The Secretary of Agriculture may make grants to  
6 States and tribal governments to support their efforts to  
7 promote the domestic maple syrup industry through the  
8 following activities:

9 (1) Promotion of research and education related  
10 to maple syrup production.

11 (2) Promotion of natural resource sustainability  
12 in the maple syrup industry.

13 (3) Market promotion for maple syrup and  
14 maple-sap products.

15 (4) Encouragement of owners and operators of  
16 privately held land containing species of tree in the  
17 genus *Acer*—

18 (A) to initiate or expand maple-sugaring  
19 activities on the land; or

20 (B) to voluntarily make the land available,  
21 including by lease or other means, for access by  
22 the public for maple-sugaring activities.

23 (b) APPLICATIONS.—In submitting an application for  
24 a grant under this section, a State or tribal government  
25 shall include—

1           (1) a description of the activities to be sup-  
2           ported using the grant funds;

3           (2) a description of the benefits that the State  
4           or tribal government intends to achieve as a result  
5           of engaging in such activities; and

6           (3) an estimate of the increase in maple-sug-  
7           aring activities or maple syrup production that the  
8           State or tribal government anticipates will occur as  
9           a result of engaging in such activities.

10          (c) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—Nothing in  
11 this section preempts a State or tribal government law,  
12 including any State or tribal government liability law.

13          (d) DEFINITION OF MAPLE SUGARING.—In this sec-  
14 tion, the term “maple-sugaring” means the collection of  
15 sap from any species of tree in the genus *Acer* for the  
16 purpose of boiling to produce food.

17          (e) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Agriculture  
18 shall promulgate such regulations as are necessary to  
19 carry out this section.

20          (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
21 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
22 \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012 through 2015.

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