

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9964

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish the Urban Bird Treaty Program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 11, 2024

Mrs. DINGELL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish the Urban Bird Treaty Program.

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 “Urban Bird Treaty
5 Act of 2024”.

6 **SEC. 2. URBAN BIRD TREATY PROGRAM.**

7 (a) URBAN BIRD TREATY PROGRAM.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall establish
9 a program for the voluntary conservation of birds

1 and the habitats of such birds in urban areas, to be
2 known as the “Urban Bird Treaty Program”.

3 (2) PROGRAM DUTIES.—In carrying out the
4 Program, the Director shall—

5 (A) work with and support covered entities
6 to—

7 (i) protect, restore, or enhance urban
8 habitats for birds, including through the
9 control of invasive species and restoration
10 of native plant species;

11 (ii) reduce urban hazards to birds;

12 (iii) engage communities in scientific
13 activities involving the monitoring of birds
14 and the habitats of such birds in urban
15 areas; and

16 (iv) educate and engage communities
17 in caring about and conserving birds and
18 the habitats of such birds in urban areas;

19 (B) provide technical and financial assist-
20 ance through partnerships with covered entities
21 to build capacity for, plan, and carry out
22 projects related to activities described in sub-
23 paragraph (A); and

24 (C) facilitate collaboration and information
25 sharing among covered entities and the public

1 with respect to best management practices for
2 the conservation, restoration, and enhancement
3 of urban bird habitats.

4 (3) GRANT PROGRAM.—

5 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall es-
6 tablish a competitive grant program to award
7 amounts to eligible entities for the purposes of
8 conducting research, planning, assessments,
9 management, building capacity, monitoring, col-
10 laboration and information sharing, workforce
11 training, and accomplishing related activities as
12 described in paragraph (2) with respect to the
13 conservation, restoration, enhancement or man-
14 agement of urban birds and the habitats of
15 urban birds.

16 (B) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible for a
17 grant under this paragraph, an eligible entity
18 shall submit to the Director an application in
19 such form, at such time, and containing such
20 information as the Director determines appro-
21 priate.

22 (C) ADMINISTRATION.—

23 (i) AGREEMENT.—The Director shall
24 enter into an agreement with the Founda-
25 tion for the Foundation to administer the

1 grant program established under subpara-
2 graph (A) pursuant to the National Fish
3 and Wildlife Foundation Establishment
4 Act (16 U.S.C. 3701 et seq.).

5 (ii) APPLICATION OF NATIONAL FISH
6 AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION ESTABLISH-
7 MENT ACT.—Section 10(a) of the National
8 Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establish-
9 ment Act (16 U.S.C. 3709(a)) shall not
10 apply with respect to—

11 (I) an agreement entered into
12 under clause (i); or

13 (II) amounts made available to
14 carry out this section.

15 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

16 (1) COVERED ENTITY.—The term “covered en-
17 tity” means—

18 (A) a Federal, Tribal, State, or municipal
19 agency;

20 (B) a nongovernmental organization;

21 (C) a community group; and

22 (D) an academic institution.

23 (2) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
24 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-

1 rector of the United States Fish and Wildlife Serv-
2 ice.

3 (3) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-
4 ty” means—

5 (A) a Tribal, State, or municipal agency;

6 (B) a nongovernmental organization;

7 (C) a community group; and

8 (D) an academic institution.

9 (4) FOUNDATION.—The term “Foundation”
10 means the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
11 established by section 2(a) of the National Fish and
12 Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act (16 U.S.C.
13 3701(a)).

14 (5) PROGRAM.—The term “Program” means
15 the Urban Bird Treaty Program established under
16 subsection (a)(1).

17 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
19 appropriated to the Director to carry out this section
20 \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through
21 2031.

22 (2) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—Beginning
23 in fiscal year 2026, and annually thereafter, the
24 amount authorized to be appropriated under para-
25 graph (1) shall be adjusted to reflect the change in

- 1 the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers
- 2 published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

