

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2998

To amend the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977 and the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 to modify provisions relating to matching funds requirements for research and extension activities at eligible institutions and related reporting requirements.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 29 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 22), 2023

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

A BILL

To amend the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977 and the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 to modify provisions relating to matching funds requirements for research and extension activities at eligible institutions and related reporting requirements.

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 “Land-Grant Research
5 Equity and Accountability Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MATCHING FUNDS REQUIREMENT FOR RESEARCH**
 2 **AND EXTENSION ACTIVITIES AT ELIGIBLE IN-**
 3 **STITUTIONS.**

4 (a) MODIFICATION.—Section 1449 of the Food and
 5 Agriculture Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3222d) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (b), in the matter preceding
 7 paragraph (1)—

8 (A) by striking “, 1999” and inserting “of
 9 each fiscal year”; and

10 (B) by striking “fiscal year 1999” and in-
 11 serting “that fiscal year”; and

12 (2) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the
 13 following:

14 “(c) STATE MATCHING FUNDS REQUIREMENT.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
 16 provision of this subtitle, for each fiscal year, a
 17 State shall provide to each eligible institution located
 18 in the State matching funds in an amount equal to
 19 the amounts provided to the eligible institution from
 20 non-Federal sources for that fiscal year, as described
 21 in subsection (b).

22 “(2) ATTESTATION TO SECRETARY.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently
 24 than once each fiscal year, a State shall submit
 25 to the Secretary an attestation that describes
 26 whether the State—

1 “(i) plans to fulfill the matching funds
 2 requirement under paragraph (1) for that
 3 fiscal year; or

4 “(ii) is unable to fulfill that matching
 5 funds requirement for the fiscal year.

6 “(B) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall
 7 publish each attestation submitted under sub-
 8 paragraph (A) on an annual basis.”.

9 (b) REPORTS.—Section 7116 of the Agriculture Im-
 10 provement Act of 2018 (7 U.S.C. 2207d) is amended—

11 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

12 (A) by striking “7601)” and inserting
 13 “7601))”; and

14 (B) by striking “Not later” and inserting
 15 the following:

16 “(a) MATCH REPORTING.—Not later”; and

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

18 “(b) OUTREACH.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide
 20 to the legislature and Governor of each State in
 21 which an 1862 Institution or 1890 Institution (as
 22 those terms are defined in section 2 of the Agricul-
 23 tural Research, Extension, and Education Reform
 24 Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7601)) is located information
 25 relating to each matching requirement applicable to

1 the State under the programs referred to in para-
 2 graphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (a).

3 “(2) FORM.—The information under paragraph
 4 (1) shall be provided—

5 “(A) through direct outreach; and

6 “(B) not later than the February 1 imme-
 7 diately preceding the date on which the award
 8 cycle under the applicable program commences.

9 “(c) ATTESTATIONS.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than
 11 once each year, the Governor of each State described
 12 in subsection (b)(1) shall submit to the Secretary an
 13 attestation that describes whether the State—

14 “(A) is able to fulfill each matching re-
 15 quirement regarding which information is pro-
 16 vided under that subsection for that year; or

17 “(B) is unable to fulfill that matching re-
 18 quirement for the year.

19 “(2) REPORTS.—Not later than December 31
 20 of each calendar year, the Secretary shall submit to
 21 Congress, and make publicly available on the website
 22 of the Department of Agriculture, an annual report
 23 describing the attestations received under paragraph
 24 (1) during that calendar year.”.

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