

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 3420

To amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to provide for a set-aside for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers for grants to support urban agriculture and innovative production, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 6, 2023

Mrs. GILLIBRAND introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to provide for a set-aside for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers for grants to support urban agriculture and innovative production, 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 “Growing Opportunities
5 for Innovative Farming Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. SET-ASIDE FOR SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARM-**
 2 **ERS AND RANCHERS.**

3 Section 222 of the Department of Agriculture Reor-
 4 ganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6923) is amended by
 5 striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

6 “(e) FUNDING.—

7 “(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

8 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
 9 this section and the amendments made by this sec-
 10 tion \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019
 11 through 2028.

12 “(2) SET-ASIDE.—Of the amounts made avail-
 13 able under paragraph (1) for each fiscal year, the
 14 Secretary shall set aside not less than 10 percent to
 15 award grants under subsection (c) to eligible entities
 16 that serve socially disadvantaged farmers and ranch-
 17 ers (as defined in section 2501(a) of the Food, Agri-
 18 culture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7
 19 U.S.C. 2279(a))), in amounts of not less than
 20 \$10,000 per grantee per fiscal year.”.

21 **SEC. 3. ANNUAL REPORT ON OPPORTUNITIES AND OUT-**
 22 **REACH FOR SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED**
 23 **FARMERS AND RANCHERS.**

24 Section 2501(k) of the Food, Agriculture, Conserva-
 25 tion, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279(k)) is amend-
 26 ed—

1 (1) in the subsection heading, by striking “RE-
2 PORT” and inserting “REPORTS”; and

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

4 “(3) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year
5 after the date of enactment of the Growing Opportu-
6 nities for Innovative Farming Act of 2023, and each
7 year thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the
8 Committee on Agriculture of the House of Rep-
9 resentatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nu-
10 trition, and Forestry of the Senate a report describ-
11 ing—

12 “(A) targeted farming opportunities, train-
13 ing, and outreach practices being carried out by
14 the Secretary under this section;

15 “(B) a list of census tracts that the Sec-
16 retary has provided technical assistance to
17 under this section;

18 “(C) recommendations to Congress on how
19 to enhance equity for socially disadvantaged,
20 small farmers and ranchers; and

21 “(D) any other data the Secretary deter-
22 mines to be necessary to evaluate the benefits
23 of the technical assistance provided, outreach

- 1 efforts undertaken, and grants awarded under
- 2 this section.”.

