

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5551

To amend the Agricultural Act of 2014 to require a one-time update of base acres for covered commodities to ensure base acres reflect recent planting history, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 23, 2025

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself and Ms. BUDZINSKI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Agricultural Act of 2014 to require a one-time update of base acres for covered commodities to ensure base acres reflect recent planting history, 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 “Balanced Agricultural
5 Support and Efficiency Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. MANDATORY BASE ACRES.**

7 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1111 of the Agricultural
8 Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9011) is amended—

1 (1) by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the
2 following:

3 “(4) BASE ACRES.—The term ‘base acres’, with
4 respect to a covered commodity on a farm, means
5 the number of acres determined for a farm under
6 section 1112.”;

7 (2) by striking paragraph (10); and

8 (3) by redesignating paragraphs (11) through
9 (26) as paragraphs (10) through (25), respectively.

10 (b) BASE ACRES.—Section 1112 of the Agricultural
11 Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9012) is amended—

12 (1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the
13 following:

14 “(a) MANDATORY ONE-TIME UPDATE OF BASE
15 ACRES.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable
17 after the date of enactment of the Balanced Agricul-
18 tural Support and Efficiency Act, the Secretary shall
19 update the base acres on a farm, as in effect under
20 this title on the day before the date of enactment of
21 that Act, for the 2025 crop year in accordance with
22 this section.

23 “(2) MANDATORY UPDATE.—For the purpose of
24 applying this title to covered commodities, the Sec-
25 retary shall determine the base acres on a farm by

1 updating all of the base acres for covered commod-
2 ities on the farm among those covered commodities
3 planted on the farm at any time during the 2020
4 through 2024 crop years.

5 “(3) UPDATE FORMULA.—The updated base
6 acres among covered commodities on a farm shall be
7 the proportion that—

8 “(A) the 5-year average of—

9 “(i) the acreage planted on the farm
10 to each covered commodity for harvest,
11 grazing, haying, silage, or other similar
12 purposes for the 2020 through 2024 crop
13 years; and

14 “(ii) any acreage on the farm that the
15 producers were prevented from planting
16 during the 2020 through 2024 crop years
17 to that covered commodity because of
18 drought, flood, or other natural disaster, or
19 other condition beyond the control of the
20 producers, as determined by the Secretary;
21 bears to

22 “(B) the 5-year average of—

23 “(i) the acreage planted on the farm
24 to all covered commodities for harvest,
25 grazing, haying, silage, or other similar

1 purposes for the 2020 through 2024 crop
2 years; and

3 “(ii) any acreage on the farm that the
4 producers were prevented from planting
5 during the 2020 through 2024 crop years
6 to covered commodities because of drought,
7 flood, or other natural disaster, or other
8 condition beyond the control of the pro-
9 ducers, as determined by the Secretary.

10 “(4) INCLUSION OF ALL 5 YEARS IN AVER-
11 AGE.—For the purpose of determining a 5-year acre-
12 age average under paragraph (3) for a farm, the
13 Secretary shall not exclude any crop year in which
14 a covered commodity was not planted.

15 “(5) TREATMENT OF MULTIPLE PLANTING OR
16 PREVENTED PLANTING.—For the purpose of deter-
17 mining under paragraph (3) the acreage on a farm
18 that producers planted or were prevented from
19 planting during the 2020 through 2024 crop years
20 to covered commodities, if the acreage that was
21 planted or prevented from being planted was devoted
22 to another covered commodity in the same crop year
23 (other than a covered commodity produced under an
24 established practice of double cropping), the owner—

1 “(A) may elect the commodity to be used
2 for that crop year in determining the 5-year av-
3 erage; but

4 “(B) may not include both the initial com-
5 modity and the subsequent commodity.”;

6 (2) in subsection (b)(1), in the matter pre-
7 ceding subparagraph (A), by striking “Notwith-
8 standing the election” and all that follows through
9 “circumstances occur:” and inserting the following:
10 “Notwithstanding subsection (a), the Secretary shall
11 provide for an adjustment, as appropriate, in the
12 base acres for covered commodities for a farm when-
13 ever any of the following circumstances occur:”;

14 (3) in subsection (c)—

15 (A) in paragraph (1)—

16 (i) by striking “the election made
17 under”;

18 (ii) by striking “, including generic
19 base acres” each place it appears; and

20 (iii) by striking “or generic base
21 acres”; and

22 (B) in paragraph (3), by striking “or ge-
23 neric base acres”; and

24 (4) in subsection (d)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking “or
2 generic base acres”; and

3 (B) in paragraph (2)(A), in the matter
4 preceding clause (i), by striking “, including
5 any generic base acres,”.

6 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

7 (1) PAYMENT YIELDS.—Section 1113(c)(1) of
8 the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9013(c)(1))
9 is amended by striking “established or that is plant-
10 ed on generic base acres,” and inserting “estab-
11 lished,”.

12 (2) PAYMENT ACRES.—Section 1114 of the Ag-
13 ricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9014) is amend-
14 ed—

15 (A) in subsection (a)—

16 (i) in paragraph (1), by striking “sub-
17 section (e)” and inserting “subsection (d)”;
18 and

19 (ii) in paragraph (2), by striking
20 “subsection (e)” and inserting “subsection
21 (d)”;

22 (B) by striking subsections (b) and (f);
23 and

1 (C) by redesignating subsections (c), (d),
2 and (e) as subsections (b), (c), and (d), respec-
3 tively.

4 (3) PRICE LOSS COVERAGE.—Section 1116(g)
5 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9016(g))
6 is amended, in the matter preceding paragraph (1),
7 by striking “(19)” and inserting “(18)”.

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