

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8374

To strike references to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in Federal law, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 20, 2026

Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina (for himself, Mr. HARRIS of Maryland, Ms. BOEBERT, Mr. WIED, Mr. HARRIGAN, Mr. FINE, Mr. BRECHEEN, Mr. CLYDE, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. PERRY, Mr. OGLES, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Ms. LETLOW, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. SELF, Mr. ROY, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. CLINE, and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To strike references to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in Federal law, 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 “Equal Treatment for
5 Farmers Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. STRIKING REFERENCES TO SOCIALLY DISADVAN-**
2 **TAGED FARMERS AND RANCHERS IN FED-**
3 **ERAL LAW.**

4 (a) Section 524(a)(3) of the Federal Crop Insurance
5 Act (7 U.S.C. 1524(a)(3)) is amended—

- 6 (1) by striking subparagraph (C); and
7 (2) by redesignating subparagraphs (D)
8 through (F) as subparagraphs (C) through (E), re-
9 spectively.

10 (b) Section 210A of the Agricultural Marketing Act
11 of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1627c) is amended—

12 (1) in subsection (a)—

13 (A) by striking paragraph (11); and

14 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (12) and
15 (13) as paragraphs (11) and (12), respectively;

16 (2) in subsection (d)(5)(C)(i)—

17 (A) by striking subclause (II); and

18 (B) by redesignating subclauses (III) and
19 (IV) as subclauses (II) and (III), respectively;

20 and

21 (3) in subsection (i)(3)(A)(ii)(II)—

22 (A) in the subclause heading, by striking
23 “BEGINNING, VETERAN, AND SOCIALLY DIS-
24 ADVANTAGED” and inserting “BEGINNING AND
25 VETERAN”; and

1 (B) by striking “beginning, veteran, and
2 socially disadvantaged” and inserting “begin-
3 ning and veteran”.

4 (c) The Consolidated Farm and Rural Development
5 Act (7 U.S.C. 1921 et seq.) is amended—

6 (1) in section 304 (7 U.S.C. 1924)—

7 (A) in subsection (d)(1), by striking “and
8 socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers”;
9 and

10 (B) in subsection (e)(2), by striking “so-
11 cially disadvantaged farmer or rancher or a”;

12 (2) in section 310B(e) (7 U.S.C. 1932(e))—

13 (A) by striking paragraph (11); and

14 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (12) and
15 (13) as paragraphs (11) and (12), respectively;
16 (3) in section 310E (7 U.S.C. 1935)—

17 (A) in subsection (d)(4)—

18 (i) in subparagraph (A), by adding
19 “or” at the end;

20 (ii) by striking subparagraph (B);

21 (iii) by redesignating subparagraph
22 (C) as subparagraph (B); and

23 (iv) in subparagraph (B), as so redес-
24 igned, by striking “; and” at the end;
25 and

1 (B) in subsection (e)—

2 (i) in paragraph (1), by adding “and”
3 at the end;

4 (ii) by striking paragraph (2); and

5 (iii) by redesignating paragraph (3) as
6 paragraph (2);

7 (4) in section 310F (7 U.S.C. 1936)—

8 (A) in the section heading, by striking

9 **“AND SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMER**
10 **OR RANCHER”**;

11 (B) in subsection (a), by striking “or so-
12 cially disadvantaged farmer or rancher (as de-
13 fined in section 355(e)(2))”;

14 (C) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “or
15 socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher”;

16 (D) in subsection (c)(1), by striking “or
17 socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher”; and

18 (E) in subsection (f), by striking “and So-
19 cially Disadvantaged Farmer or Rancher” each
20 place it appears;

21 (5) in section 310I (7 U.S.C. 1936c)—

22 (A) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “so-
23 cially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers (as
24 defined in subsection (a) of section 2501 of the

1 Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act
2 of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279)) or”; and

3 (B) by amending subsection (d) to read as
4 follows:

5 “(d) PREFERENCE.—In making loans under sub-
6 section (a), the Secretary shall give preference to eligible
7 entities in States that have adopted a statute consisting
8 of an enactment or adoption of the Uniform Partition of
9 Heirs Property Act, as approved and recommended for en-
10 actment in all States by the National Conference of Com-
11 missioners on Uniform State Laws in 2010, that relend
12 to owners of heirs property (as defined in that Act).”;

13 (6) in section 333B(c)(3)(A) (7 U.S.C.
14 1983b(c)(3)(A)), by striking “, including, as appro-
15 priate, socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers
16 (as defined in section 355(e)(2))”;

17 (7) in section 352(c) (7 U.S.C. 2000(c)), by
18 amending paragraph (4) to read as follows:

19 “(4) The period of occupancy allowed the prior owner
20 of homestead property under this section shall be the pe-
21 riod requested in writing by the prior owner, except that
22 such period shall not exceed 5 years.”; and

23 (8) by striking section 355 (7 U.S.C. 2003).

24 (d) Section 5413 of the Agriculture Improvement Act
25 of 2018 (7 U.S.C. 2008x) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (b)(1)(C), by striking “and so-
2 cially disadvantaged”; and

3 (2) in subsection (c)(1)(B), by striking “and so-
4 cially disadvantaged”.

5 (e) Section 2501 of the Food, Agriculture, Conserva-
6 tion, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279) is amend-
7 ed—

8 (1) in subsection (a)—

9 (A) by striking paragraphs (5) and (6);
10 and

11 (B) by redesignating paragraph (7) as
12 paragraph (5);

13 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “socially dis-
14 advantaged farmers and ranchers, veteran farmers
15 and ranchers,” and inserting “veteran farmers and
16 ranchers”;

17 (3) in subsection (c)—

18 (A) in the subsection heading, by striking
19 “SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED AND”;

20 (B) in paragraph (1)—

21 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

22 (I) in clause (i), by striking “so-
23 cially disadvantaged farmers and
24 ranchers and”; and

1 (II) in clause (ii), by striking
2 “socially disadvantaged farmers or
3 ranchers and”;
4 (ii) by striking subparagraphs (E) and
5 (F); and
6 (iii) by redesignating subparagraph
7 (G) as subparagraph (E);
8 (C) in paragraph (3)(B)(i), by striking
9 “socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers
10 and”;
11 (D) in paragraph (4)—
12 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking
13 “socially disadvantaged farmers and ranch-
14 ers and”;
15 (ii) in subparagraph (D)—
16 (I) by striking clauses (iii) and
17 (iv);
18 (II) by redesignating clauses (v)
19 through (vii) as clauses (iii) through
20 (v), respectively;
21 (III) in clause (iv), as so redesign-
22 ated, by striking “and socially dis-
23 advantaged farmers or ranchers”; and

1 (IV) in clause (v), as so redesignated,
 2 nated, by striking “clause (vi)” and
 3 inserting “clause (iv)”;
 4 (iii) in subparagraph (F), by striking
 5 “socially disadvantaged farmers and ranch-
 6 ers or”;
 7 (E) by striking paragraph (5);
 8 (4) in subsection (f)—
 9 (A) by striking paragraph (2);
 10 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (3)
 11 through (7) as paragraphs (2) through (6), re-
 12 spectively; and
 13 (C) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated—
 14 (i) in subparagraph (A), by adding
 15 “or” at the end;
 16 (ii) by striking subparagraph (B); and
 17 (iii) by redesignating subparagraph
 18 (C) as subparagraph (B);
 19 (5) in subsection (g)(2), by striking “socially
 20 disadvantaged farmers and ranchers or”;
 21 (6) by striking subsections (h) and (j);
 22 (7) by redesignating subsections (i), (k), and (l)
 23 as subsections (h), (i), and (j), respectively;
 24 (8) in subsection (i), as so redesignated—

1 (A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking “and
2 members of socially disadvantaged groups”; and

3 (B) in paragraph (2)—

4 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking
5 “and members of socially disadvantaged
6 groups”;

7 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by adding
8 “and” at the end;

9 (iii) by striking subparagraphs (C)
10 and (E);

11 (iv) by redesignating subparagraph
12 (D) as subparagraph (C); and

13 (v) in subparagraph (C), as so redesi-
14 gnated, by striking “; and” and inserting
15 a period; and

16 (9) in subsection (j)(4)(A), as redesignated by
17 paragraph (7)—

18 (A) in clause (i), by adding “and” at the
19 end;

20 (B) by striking clause (ii); and

21 (C) by redesignating clause (iii) as clause
22 (ii).

23 (f) The Federal Crop Insurance Reform and Depart-
24 ment of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C.
25 6901 et seq.) is amended—

1 (1) in section 226B (7 U.S.C. 6934)—

2 (A) in subsection (a), by striking para-
3 graph (3);

4 (B) in subsection (b)(1)(B)—

5 (i) by striking clause (iii); and

6 (ii) by redesignating clauses (iv) and
7 (v) as clauses (iii) and (iv), respectively;

8 (C) in subsection (c)—

9 (i) in the matter preceding paragraph
10 (1), by striking “veteran farmers and
11 ranchers, and socially disadvantaged farm-
12 ers or ranchers” and inserting “and vet-
13 eran farmers and ranchers”;

14 (ii) in paragraph (1), by striking “so-
15 cially disadvantaged,”; and

16 (iii) in paragraph (5), by striking
17 “veteran farmers or ranchers, and socially
18 disadvantaged farmers or ranchers” and
19 inserting “and veteran farmers or ranch-
20 ers”;

21 (D) by striking subsection (d); and

22 (E) by redesignating subsections (e) and
23 (f) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively; and

24 (2) by striking section 305 (7 U.S.C. 2279a).

1 (g) Section 201 of division HH of the Consolidated
2 Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117–328; 136 Stat.
3 5971) is repealed.

4 (h) Section 196 of the Federal Agriculture Improve-
5 ment and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7333) is amend-
6 ed—

7 (1) in subsection (k)(2), by striking “, begin-
8 ning, or socially disadvantaged” and inserting “or
9 beginning”; and

10 (2) in subsection (l)(3)—

11 (A) in the paragraph heading, by striking
12 “VETERAN, AND SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED”
13 and inserting “AND VETERAN”; and

14 (B) by striking “, beginning, and socially
15 disadvantaged” and inserting “and beginning”.

16 (i) Section 405(c) of the Agricultural Research, Ex-
17 tension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C.
18 7625(c)) is amended by striking “socially disadvantaged
19 farmers,”.

20 (j) Section 9011 of the Farm Security and Rural In-
21 vestment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8111) is amended—

22 (1) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (9);
23 and

24 (2) in subsection (c)—

1 (A) in paragraph (2)(B), by amending
2 clause (v) to read as follows:

3 “(v) the participation rate by begin-
4 ning farmers or ranchers (as defined in ac-
5 cordance with section 343(a) of the Con-
6 solidated Farm and Rural Development
7 Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a)));”; and

8 (B) in paragraph (5), by amending sub-
9 paragraph (B) to read as follows:

10 “(B) AMOUNT OF ESTABLISHMENT PAY-
11 MENTS.—The amount of an establishment pay-
12 ment under this subsection shall be not more
13 than 50 percent of the costs of establishing an
14 eligible perennial crop covered by the contract
15 but not to exceed \$500 per acre, including—

16 “(i) the cost of seeds and stock for
17 perennials;

18 “(ii) the cost of planting the perennial
19 crop, as determined by the Secretary; and

20 “(iii) in the case of nonindustrial pri-
21 vate forestland, the costs of site prepara-
22 tion and tree planting.”.

23 (k) The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008
24 (7 U.S.C. 8701 et seq.) is amended—

1 (1) in section 1101(d) (7 U.S.C. 8711(d)), by
2 amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

3 “(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not
4 apply to a farm owned by a limited resource farmer
5 or rancher, as defined by the Secretary.”; and

6 (2) in section 1302(d) (7 U.S.C. 8752(d)), by
7 amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

8 “(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not
9 apply to a farm owned by a limited resource farmer
10 or rancher, as defined by the Secretary.”.

11 (l) The Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9001 et
12 seq.) is amended—

13 (1) in section 1114(d)(2) (7 U.S.C.
14 9014(d)(2))—

15 (A) by striking subparagraph (A); and

16 (B) by redesignating subparagraphs (B)
17 through (D) as subparagraphs (A) through (C),
18 respectively;

19 (2) in section 1404(c)(4) (7 U.S.C. 9054(c)(4)),
20 by striking “veteran, or socially disadvantaged” and
21 inserting “or veteran”; and

22 (3) in section 1501(a)(1)(A) (7 U.S.C.
23 9081(a)(1)(A))—

24 (A) in clause (i), by adding “or” at the
25 end;

1 (B) by striking clause (ii); and

2 (C) by redesignating clause (iii) as clause

3 (ii).

4 (m) Subclause (III) of section 8(b)(5)(B)(iii) of the
5 Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (16 U.S.C.
6 590h(b)(5)(B)(iii)) is amended to read as follows:

7 “(III) NOMINATIONS.—To be eli-
8 gible for nomination and election to
9 the applicable county, area, or local
10 committee, as determined by the Sec-
11 retary, an agricultural producer shall
12 be located within the area under the
13 jurisdiction of a county, area, or local
14 committee, and participate or cooper-
15 ate in programs administered within
16 that area.”.

17 (n) Section 402A(b) of the Agricultural Credit Act
18 of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2202a(b)) is amended by striking “,
19 a socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher (as defined in
20 subsection (a) of section 2501 of the Food, Agriculture,
21 Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279),”.

22 (o) Section 623 of the Agricultural Credit Act of
23 1987 (7 U.S.C. 1985 note) is repealed.

24 (p) The Food Security Act of 1985 (Public Law 99–
25 198; 99 Stat. 1504) is amended—

1 (1) in section 1201(a) (16 U.S.C. 3801(a))—

2 (A) by striking paragraph (23); and

3 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (24)
4 through (27) as paragraphs (23) through (26),
5 respectively;

6 (2) in section 1231C(b)(3)(E) (16 U.S.C.
7 3831c(b)(3)(E))—

8 (A) in the subparagraph heading, by strik-
9 ing “SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED,”;

10 (B) in the matter preceding clause (i), by
11 striking “socially disadvantaged,”; and

12 (C) in clause (i)(II), by striking “socially
13 disadvantaged,”;

14 (3) in section 1240B(d)(4)(A) (16 U.S.C.
15 3839aa–2(d)(4)(A)), by striking “socially disadvan-
16 tagged farmer or rancher,”;

17 (4) in section 1241(h) (16 U.S.C. 3841(h)), by
18 amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

19 “(1) ASSISTANCE.—

20 “(A) FISCAL YEARS 2009 THROUGH 2018.—

21 Of the funds made available for each of fiscal
22 years 2009 through 2018 to carry out the envi-
23 ronmental quality incentives program and the
24 acres made available for each of such fiscal
25 years to carry out the conservation stewardship

1 program, the Secretary shall use, to the max-
2 imum extent practicable, 5 percent to assist be-
3 ginning farmers or ranchers.

4 “(B) FISCAL YEARS 2019 THROUGH 2031.—

5 Of the funds made available for each of fiscal
6 years 2019 through 2031 to carry out the envi-
7 ronmental quality incentives program under
8 subchapter A of chapter 4 of subtitle D and the
9 conservation stewardship program under sub-
10 chapter B of chapter 4 of subtitle D, the Sec-
11 retary shall use, to the maximum extent prac-
12 ticable, 5 percent to assist beginning farmers or
13 ranchers.”; and

14 (5) in section 1271E(d) (16 U.S.C. 3871e(d)),

15 by striking “socially disadvantaged farmers and
16 ranchers,”.

17 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON RACIAL AND GENDER PREF-**
18 **ERENCES IN USDA PROGRAMS.**

19 Notwithstanding any other law, no program of the
20 Department of Agriculture may provide any preference,
21 priority consideration, or enhanced benefits to any indi-
22 vidual or entity on the basis of race or gender.

○