

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Agriculture

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Amendment submitted in advance (numbered in order received)

Amendment #: 061

Submitted by Rep. Etheridge – Title II—Additional Support for Gasifier Technology

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY REP. ETHERIDGE

Amends Sec. 1240 B of the FOOD SECURITY ACT OF 1985 to provide for a 90% cost share for those projects which utilize gasifier technology for the purposes of the disposal of animal carcasses and by-products. These gasifiers have been proven to eliminate waste as a biohazard, and to reduce the amount of groundwater and air contamination which results during the traditional incineration or burying method of disposal.

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2419
OFFERED BY MR. ETHERIDGE OF NORTH
CAROLINA

(Page and line numbers refer to the conservation title of the
chairman's mark)

Page 44, after line 2, insert the following new sub-
section (and redesignate subsequent subsections):

1 (e) ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR USE OF GASIFIER
2 TECHNOLOGY.—Section 1240B(d)(2) of the Food Secu-
3 rity Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa-2(d)(2)) is amended
4 by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

5 “(C) INCREASED COST-SHARE FOR USE OF
6 GASIFIER TECHNOLOGY.—In carrying out this
7 chapter, the Secretary shall promote air quality
8 by providing for a 90 percent cost share for
9 those projects that utilize gasifier technology
10 for the purposes of the disposal of animal car-
11 casses and by-products.”.

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Agriculture

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Amendment submitted in advance (numbered in order received)

Amendment #: 074

Submitted by Rep. Costa – Title II Regional Water Enhancement Program

Amendment Offered by Mr. Costa

Currently the Region Water Enhancement Program identifies several areas of priority. This amendment would require that no more than 50% of the total program funding be allocated to address issues in these priority areas. This will allow other environmentally sensitive areas with water concerns to also participate in Regional Water Enhancement Program.

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2419

OFFERED BY MR. COSTA OF CALIFORNIA

**(Page and line numbers refer to the conservation title of the
chairman's mark)**

Page 57, line 14, relating to Water Quality and Water Quantity Priority Areas, insert after the period the following new sentence: "Not more than 50 percent of the funds made available for the regional water enhancement program shall be reserved for priority areas identified in this paragraph."

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Agriculture

VU a Lopez

Amendment submitted in advance (numbered in order received)

Amendment #: 077

Submitted by Rep. Musgrave Title II Strike in-stream flows

**Amendment 77 offered by
Mrs. Musgrave of Colorado
to Title II**

In order to demonstrate an "in stream flow" under water laws based on prior appropriation doctrines, a water right would have to be Adjudicated for an in stream flow purpose. The exact process for obtaining an "in stream flow" right, converting an existing water right to an "in stream flow" right, and the administration of those rights varies.

A current water right holder leaving water in the stream does not necessarily result in additional in stream flow, it would merely mean that water is available for the next appropriator who is in priority (next in priority to use water).

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2419
OFFERED BY
MRS. MUSGRAVE OF COLORADO

Title II, §2105 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM

Page 41 line 25 strike “(ii) increase in-stream flows;”
and redesignate accordingly.

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Agriculture

UU adopted

Amendment submitted in advance (numbered in order received)

Amendment #: 039

Submitted by Rep. Walz – Title II – CSP Changes

WALZ AMENDMENT TO CONSERVATION SECURITY PROGRAM

Summary

This amendment streamlines the Conservation Security Program by making two changes to the program's evaluation and ranking process and the CSP application process:

- It requires USDA to consider the multiple benefits of conservation-based farming systems, such as organic production, when determining what CSP offers to enroll in the program;
- It requires USDA to establish a method to allow producers to certify their eligibility for CSP at the same time they certify their operation as organic, which will save time and reduce paperwork for those producers.

Background

The Conservation Security Program in the Chairman's mark ranks participants based on cost effectiveness as well as the level of conservation they have achieved and the additional conservation improvements they are able to make. USDA then uses these rankings to decide which CSP offers to enroll in the program.

The Walz amendment ensures that when USDA decides which CSP offers to accept, it considers the benefits that occur when a producer adopts a diversified approach to conservation.

A diversified conservation approach, such as transitioning to organic production or developing a rotational grazing operation, can address multiple conservation issues at once. Congress recognized the importance of these multi-dimensional approaches in the 2002 Farm Bill, but without specific authorization to do so, USDA may not acknowledge the conservation benefits of this type of farming operation when considering a CSP application.

The Walz amendment will ensure that producers who have made a transition to organic production are put on equal footing with other farming operations.

The Walz amendment would also reduce the paperwork associated with converting a farm operation to organic production.

The amendment would require USDA to develop a farmer-friendly method to allow a producer to simultaneously certify their eligibility to participate in the National Organic Program and the Conservation Security Program. This will reduce duplicative paperwork for both producers and USDA and encourage farmers to participate in the CSP.

For years, USDA has promised farmers they would institute this procedure, but the dual certification process has languished. The Walz amendment will require USDA to develop this procedure within 90 days of enactment.

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2419**OFFERED BY MR. WALZ OF MINNESOTA**

(Page and line numbers refer to the conservation title of the chairman's mark)

In section 2103, page 29, after line 4, insert the following new paragraph (4) (and redesignate existing paragraph (4)):

1 “(4) consider the multiple benefits of conserva-
2 tion-based farming systems, including resource-con-
3 servation crop rotations, managed rotational graz-
4 ing, and the adoption of certified production under
5 the national organic production program under the
6 Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C.
7 6501 et. seq.); and”.

In section 2103, page 29, after line 8, insert the following new subsection:

8 (k) COORDINATION WITH ORGANIC CERTIFI-
9 CATION.—Within 90 days after the date of the enactment
10 of the [2007 farm bill], the Secretary shall establish a
11 transparent and producer-friendly means by which pro-
12 ducers may coordinate and simultaneously certify eligibly
13 under a conservation security contract and under the na-
14 tional organic production program established under the

- 1 Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6501
- 2 et. seq.).

U.S. House of Representatives
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Amendment submitted in advance (numbered in order received)

Amendment #: 062

Submitted by Rep. Etheridge/Hayes Title III—Leaf Tobacco eligible commodity for
Market Access Program

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY REPS. ETHERIDGE AND HAYES

Amends Section 1302(b)(3) of the Agriculture Reconciliation Act of 1993 to make leaf tobacco an eligible commodity for the Market Access Program.

AMENDMENT TO THE TRADE TITLE
OFFERED BY MR. ETHERIDGE OF ~~NORTH~~ and Mr. Hayes of
~~CAROLINA~~ North Carolina

Page 11, after line 3, insert the following:

1 (c) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR ACTIVITIES TO DE-
2 VELOP, MAINTAIN, OR EXPAND FOREIGN MARKETS FOR
3 LEAF TOBACCO.—Section 1302(b)(3) of the Agricultural
4 Reconciliation Act of 1993 (7 U.S.C. 5623 note) is amend-
5 ed by inserting “, other than leaf tobacco” after “to-
6 bacco”.

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Agriculture

walsh

Amendment submitted in advance (numbered in order received)

Amendment #: 049

Submitted by Rep. Boswell- Title VI - Historic Barn Preservation

**Summary of Amendment Offered by Rep. Boswell
Regarding Historic Barn Preservation**

This amendment would direct the Secretary of Agriculture to give highest priority to funding projects that identify, document, and conduct research on a historic barn to develop and evaluate appropriate techniques or best practices for protection historic barns.

**AMENDMENT TO THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT
TITLE
OFFERED BY MR. BOSWELL OF IOWA**

Strike section 6016 and insert the following:

1 **SEC. 6016. HISTORIC BARN PRESERVATION.**

2 (a) GRANT PRIORITY.—Section 379A(c) of the Con-
3 solidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C.
4 2008o(c)) is amended by redesignating paragraphs (3)
5 and (4) as paragraphs (4) and (5) and inserting after
6 paragraph (2) the following:

7 “(3) PRIORITY.—In making grants under this
8 subsection, the Secretary shall give the highest pri-
9 ority to funding projects described in paragraph
10 (2)(C).”.

11 (b) LIMITATIONS ON AUTHORIZATION OF APPRO-
12 PRIATIONS.—Section 379A(c)(5) of such Act (7 U.S.C.
13 2008o(c)(5)), as so redesignated by subsection (a) of this
14 section, is amended by striking “2002 through 2007” and
15 inserting “2008 through 2012”.

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Agriculture

adopted

Amendment submitted in advance (numbered in order received)

Amendment #: 050

Submitted by Rep. Boswell– Title VI – Rural Strategic Investment Program

**Summary of Amendment Offered by Rep. Boswell and Rep. Space
Regarding Rural Strategic Investment Program**

This amendment would add “promotion and preservation of rural heritage” to the list of eligible projects to be considered for Planning Grants under the Rural Strategic Investment Program (RSIP). It would also add ‘demonstrate a plan to protect and promote rural heritage’ to the list of RSIP’s Innovation Grant criteria.

**AMENDMENT TO THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT
TITLE
OFFERED BY MR. BOSWELL OF IOWA**

Strike section 6020 and insert the following:

1 **SEC. 6020. RURAL STRATEGIC INVESTMENT PROGRAM.**

2 (a) **LIMITATIONS ON AUTHORIZATION OF APPRO-**
3 **PRIATIONS.**—Section 385E of the Consolidated Farm and
4 Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2009dd-4) is amended
5 to read as follows:

6 **“SEC. 385E. LIMITATIONS ON AUTHORIZATION OF APPRO-**
7 **PRIATIONS.**

8 “There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
9 retary to carry out this subtitle not more than
10 \$25,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through
11 2012.”.

12 (b) **PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION OF RURAL**
13 **HERITAGE.**—

14 (1) **DEFINITION.**—Section 385B of such Act (7
15 U.S.C. 2009dd-1) is amended by adding at the end
16 the following:

17 “(12) **RURAL HERITAGE.**—The term ‘rural her-
18 itage’ means historic sites, structures, and districts
19 which may include rural downtown areas and main

1 streets, neighborhoods, farmsteads, scenic and his-
2 toric trails, and heritage areas and historic land-
3 scapes.”.

4 (2) RURAL STRATEGIC INVESTMENT PLANNING
5 GRANTS.—Section 385F(b) of such Act (7 U.S.C.
6 2009dd-5(b)) is amended—

7 (A) by striking “and” at the end of para-
8 graph (6); and

9 (B) by redesignating paragraph (7) as
10 paragraph (8) and inserting after paragraph
11 (6) the following:

12 “(7) preservation and promotion of rural herit-
13 age; and”.

14 (3) INNOVATION GRANTS.—Section 385E(d) of
15 such Act (7 U.S.C. 2009dd-6(d)) is amended—

16 (A) by striking “and” at the end of para-
17 graph (6); and

18 (B) by redesignating paragraph (7) as
19 paragraph (8) and inserting after paragraph
20 (6) the following:

21 “(7) demonstrate a plan to protect and promote
22 rural heritage; and”.

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Agriculture

unadopted

Amendment submitted in advance (numbered in order received)

Amendment #: 020

Submitted by Rep. Gillibrand – Title VI– Buy Local Preference

**Buy Local Preference
Rural Development Title VI
Rep. Kirsten Gillibrand**

This amendment will encourage the development of local and regional food systems by creating a preference within the Business and Industry program for loans and loan guarantees for rural food enterprise entrepreneurs that process and distribute food locally and regionally.

There is no cost.

**AMENDMENT TO THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT
TITLE
OFFERED BY MRS. GILLIBRAND OF NEW YORK**

Page 5, after line 3, insert the following (and redesignate succeeding sections and cross-references thereto, and conform the table of contents, accordingly):

1 **SEC. 6010. CRITERIA TO BE APPLIED IN PROVIDING**
2 **LOANS AND LOAN GUARANTEES UNDER THE**
3 **BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY LOAN PROGRAM.**

4 Section 310B(g) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural
5 Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(g)) is amended by add-
6 ing at the end the following:

7 “(9)(A) In providing loans and loan guarantees under
8 this section, the Secretary shall consider an application
9 more favorably when compared to other applications to the
10 extent that the project described in the application sup-
11 ports community development and farm and ranch income
12 by marketing, distributing, storing, aggregating, or proc-
13 essing a locally or regionally produced agricultural prod-
14 uct.

15 “(B) In subparagraph (A), the term ‘locally or re-
16 gionally produced agricultural product’ means an agricul-
17 tural product—

1 “(I) which is produced and distributed in the
2 locality or region where the finished product is mar-
3 keted;

4 “(ii) which has been shipped a total distance of
5 400 or less miles, as determined by the Secretary;
6 and

7 “(iii) about which the distributor has conveyed
8 to the end-use consumers information regarding the
9 origin of the product or production practices, or
10 other valuable information.”.

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Agriculture

Amendment submitted in advance (numbered in order received)

Amendment #: 001

Submitted by Rep. Space – Title VI – Amends USDA's broadband loan program

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into Record

Summary of Space Amendment to Title VI

Amends the USDA's broadband loan program by:

- Requiring the Secretary to reduce the cost and paperwork of the application process;
- Allowing broadband providers to choose the length of the amortization period of their loans, as long as:
 - The period does not exceed 35 years
 - The Secretary verifies the loans are adequately secured
- Encouraging the Secretary to consider whether or not an area is served in setting the amortization period.
- Encouraging the Secretary to reduce equity requirements on broadband providers offering service to unserved areas.
- Expanding existing reporting requirements to include type and speed of service offered by loan recipients.

**AMENDMENT TO THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT
TITLE
OFFERED BY MR. SPACE OF OHIO**

Page 31, after line 6, insert the following:

1 (c) PAPERWORK REDUCTION.—Section 601(c) of
2 such Act (7 U.S.C. 950bb(c)), as amended by subsection
3 (b)(2) of this section, is amended by adding at the end
4 the following:

5 “(4) PAPERWORK REDUCTION.—The Secretary
6 shall take steps to reduce the cost and paperwork
7 associated with applying for a loan or loan guar-
8 antee under this section by first-time applicants,
9 particularly those who are smaller and start-up
10 Internet providers, including by providing for a new
11 application which shall maintain the ability of the
12 Secretary to make an analysis of the risk associated
13 with the loan involved.”.

Page 31, line 7, strike “(c)” and insert “(d)”.

Page 31, line 12, strike “(d)” and insert “(e)”.

Page 31, after line 21, insert the following:

1 (f) LOAN TERM NOT TO EXCEED 35 YEARS.—Sec-
2 tion 601(g)(2) of such Act (7 U.S.C. 950bb(g)(2)) is
3 amended by striking “not to exceed the useful life of the
4 assets constructed, improved, or acquired with the pro-
5 ceeds of the loan or extension of credit.” and inserting
6 “of such length, not exceeding 35 years, as the borrower
7 may request, so long as the Secretary ^{determines} ~~verifies~~ that the loan
8 is adequately secured.
9 In determining the term of a loan or loan guarantee, the
10 Secretary shall consider whether the recipient is or would
11 be serving an area that is not receiving broadband serv-
12 ices.”.

Page 31, line 22, strike “(e)” and insert “(g)”.

Page 32, line 7, insert “, and, in determining the amount and method of the security, shall consider reducing the security in areas that do not have broadband service” after “entity”.

Page 32, line 8, strike “(f)” and insert “(h)”.

Page 32, line 9, strike “(e)” and insert “(g)”.

Page 32, after line 20, insert the following:

13 “(3) the speed of the broadband service offered
14 by applicants for, and recipients of, loans or loan
15 guarantees under this section;

1 “(4) the type of services offered by the appli-
2 cants and recipients;”.

Page 32, line 21, strike “(3)” and insert “(5)”.

Page 32, line 23, strike “(4)” and insert “(6)”.

Page 33, line 3, strike “(g)” and insert “(i)”.

Page 33, line 5, strike “(e) and (f)” and insert “(g)
and (h)”.

Page 36, line 1, strike “(h)” and insert “(j)”.

Page 36, beginning on line 2, strike “(e) through
(g)” and insert “(g) through (i)”.

Page 37, line 3, strike “(i)” and insert “(k)”.

Page 37, line 5, strike “(d) through (f)” and insert
“(f) through (h)”.

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Agriculture

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Amendment submitted in advance (numbered in order received)

Amendment #: 031

Submitted by Rep. Pomeroy – Title VI – Changes to the Rural Cooperative
Development Grant Program

Pomeroy Amendment
Changes to the Rural Cooperative Development Grant Program

1. Criteria needed for centers to qualify for multi-year funding under the Rural Cooperative Development Grant Program

The RCDG program provides grants to centers on an annual basis. The Chairman's mark includes a provision that would allow the Secretary to give grants of up to three years for centers that have received funding before. This amendment would add a requirement that only those centers that have a proven track record of successfully starting businesses, would qualify for multiyear awards. New centers could apply for annual grants but only centers that have received funding before and have demonstrated experience and expertise would qualify for multiyear grants.

2. Addressing the Needs of Rural Socially Disadvantaged Communities

This amendment would provide for a twenty percent set aside for centers working with socially disadvantaged communities when the appropriation level exceeds \$7.5 million.

3. Authority to Carry Over Funds

This amendment clarifies that the Secretary has authority to carry over funds into the next fiscal year.

4. Building USDA Research Capacity

This amendment directs the Secretary to enter into cooperative research agreements to conduct research on national economic impact of all types of cooperatives.

**AMENDMENT TO THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT
TITLE
OFFERED BY MR. POMEROY OF NORTH DAKOTA**

Page 4, after line 11, insert the following:

1 (a) ELIGIBILITY.—Section 310B(e)(5) of the Consoli-
2 dated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C.
3 1932(e)(5)) is amended—

4 (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “a nation-
5 ally coordinated, regionally or State-wide operated
6 project” and inserting “activities to promote and as-
7 sist the development of cooperatively and mutually
8 owned businesses”;

9 (2) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “to pro-
10 mote and assist the development of cooperatively
11 and mutually owned businesses” before the semi-
12 colon;

13 (3) by striking subparagraphs (D) and (F) and
14 redesignating subparagraph (E) as subparagraph
15 (D); and

16 (4) adding at the end the following:

17 “(E) demonstrate a commitment to—

18 “(i) networking with and sharing the
19 results of its efforts with other cooperative

1 development centers and other organiza-
2 tions involved in rural economic develop-
3 ment efforts; and
4 “(ii) developing multi-organization
5 and multi-State approaches to addressing
6 the cooperative and economic development
7 needs of rural areas.”.

Page 4, line 12, strike “(a)” and insert “(b)”.

Page 4, beginning on line 13, strike “the Consoli-
dated Farm and Rural Development” and insert “such”.

Page 4, beginning on line 20, strike “If the Sec-
retary determines it to be in the best interest of the pro-
gram, the Secretary may award grants for a period of
more than 1 year, but not more than 3 years, to centers
that have successfully met the goals under paragraph (3)
in providing services under this subsection, as determined
by the Secretary.” and insert “The Secretary may award
grants for a period of more than 1 year, but not more
than 3 years, to centers that have successfully met the
criteria under paragraph (5).”.

Page 4, after line 26, insert the following:

8 (c) AUTHORITY TO EXTEND GRANT PERIOD FOR 1
9 YEAR.—Section 310B(e) of such Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(e))
10 is amended by redesignating paragraphs (7) through (9)

1 as paragraphs (8) through (10), respectively, and insert-
2 ing after paragraph (6) the following:

3 “(7) The Secretary may extend for only 1 addi-
4 tional 12-month period the period in which a grantee
5 may use a grant made under this subsection.”.

6 (d) COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM.—Section
7 310B(e) of such Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(e)), as amended by
8 subsection (c) of this section, is amended by redesignating
9 paragraphs (9) and (10) as paragraphs (10) and (11), re-
10 spectively, and inserting after paragraph (9) the following:

11 “(10) The Secretary shall enter into a coopera-
12 tive research agreement with 1 or more qualified
13 academic institutions in each fiscal year to conduct
14 research on the national economic effects of all types
15 of cooperatives.”.

16 (e) ADDRESSING NEEDS OF MINORITY COMMU-
17 NITIES.—Section 310B(e) of such Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(e)),
18 as amended by subsections (c) and (d) of this section, is
19 amended by redesignating paragraph (11) as paragraph
20 (12) and inserting after paragraph (10) the following:

21 “(11)(A) If the total amount appropriated
22 under paragraph (12) of this subsection for a fiscal
23 year exceeds \$7,500,000, the Secretary shall reserve
24 an amount equal to 20 percent of the amount so ap-
25 propriated for grants for cooperative development

1 centers, individual cooperatives, or groups of co-
2 operatives, serving socially disadvantaged (within the
3 meaning of section 355(e)) communities, a majority
4 of the boards of directors or governing boards of
5 which are comprised of socially disadvantaged
6 (withing such meaning) individuals.

7 “(B) To the extent that the Secretary deter-
8 mines that funds reserved under subparagraph (A)
9 will not be used for grants described in subpara-
10 graph (A) because of insufficient applications for the
11 grants, the Secretary shall use the funds as other-
12 wise authorized by this subsection.”

Page 5, line 1, strike “(b)” and insert “(f)”.

Page 5, line 2, strike “310B(e)(9) of such Act (7
U.S.C. 1932(e)(9))” and insert “310B(e)(12) of such Act
(7 U.S.C. 1932(e)(12)), as so redesignated by subsections
(c) through (e) of this section,”.

waived

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Agriculture

Amendment submitted in advance (numbered in order received)

Amendment #: 008

Submitted by Rep. Herseth Sandlin- Title VI - Rural Public Television Stations

REP. HERSETH SANDLIN AMENDMENT

ASSISTANCE FOR RURAL PUBLIC TELEVISION STATIONS

Allows the Secretary of Agriculture to make grants to enable Public Television Stations in rural areas to replace current analog television broadcasting equipment, facilities, and infrastructure with digital television broadcasting equipment, facilities, and infrastructure as part of the national transition to digital television service.

AMENDMENT TO THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

TITLE

OFFERED BY MS. HERSETH OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Sandlin

At the end of the title, add the following:

1 **SEC. _____. ASSISTANCE FOR RURAL PUBLIC TELEVISION**
2 **STATIONS.**

3 Section 2333 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation
4 and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. Sec. 950aaa-2) is
5 amended by adding at the end the following:

6 “(j) DIGITAL SERVICE TRANSITION ASSISTANCE FOR
7 PUBLIC TELEVISION STATIONS.—The Secretary may pro-
8 vide grants under this section to noncommercial education
9 television broadcast stations that serve rural areas for the
10 purposes of developing digital facilities, equipment, and in-
11 frastructure to enhance digital services to rural areas.”.