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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R.

To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to reestablish the Driftless Area Landscape Conservation Initiative, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. HINSON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to reestablish the Driftless Area Landscape Conservation Initiative, 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 “Driftless Area Land-
5 scape Conservation Initiative Act” or the “DALCI Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DRIFTLESS AREA LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION INI-**
2 **TIATIVE.**

3 Subchapter A of chapter 4 of subtitle D of title XII
4 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa et
5 seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

6 **“SEC. 1240H-1. DRIFTLESS AREA LANDSCAPE CONSERVA-**
7 **TION INITIATIVE.**

8 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall estab-
9 lish a Driftless Area Landscape Conservation Initiative to
10 reduce erosion and restore cold water stream corridors in
11 the Driftless Area of the Midwestern United States, with
12 a focus on climate-smart agriculture, carbon sequestra-
13 tion, soil health, and ecological restoration.

14 “(b) INITIATIVE ELEMENTS.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the initia-
16 tive established under this section, the Secretary
17 shall provide assistance to producers to implement
18 practices to—

19 “(A) manage working lands for year-round
20 ground cover to rebuild soil, sequester carbon,
21 improve water quality, increase water holding
22 capacity of soil, reduce soil erosion, and miti-
23 gate flooding and other climate impacts;

24 “(B) manage woodlands for increased bio-
25 diversity to improve the health of the woods to
26 provide habitat and sequester carbon;

1 “(C) restore prairies and manage grass-
2 lands, oak savannas, and barrens to expand
3 habitat and sequester carbon; and

4 “(D) restore cold water streams, by reduc-
5 ing stream bank erosion and threats of flooding
6 while improving trout habitat.

7 “(2) PARTNERSHIPS.—In carrying out the ini-
8 tiative established under this section, the Secretary
9 shall provide assistance to grassroots partnerships to
10 educate landowners and operators on the benefits of
11 climate-smart agriculture, soil health, and holistic
12 grazing.

13 “(3) TYPES OF ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary
14 may provide assistance under this section in the
15 form of financial assistance, technical assistance,
16 and payments for the conveyance of easements to
17 the Secretary, under such terms as the Secretary
18 may establish.

19 “(c) FUNDING.—Of the funds made available to carry
20 out this subchapter, the Secretary shall carry out this sec-
21 tion using \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2027
22 through 2031.”.