118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. ______

To reduce enteric methane emissions, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. Crockett introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on ______

A BILL

To reduce enteric methane emissions, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Enteric Methane Innovation Tools for Lower Emissions
6 and Sustainable Stock Act of 2024” or the “EMIT LESS
7 Act of 2024”.

8 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
9 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Definition of Secretary.
TITLE I—ENABLING ENTERIC METHANE RESEARCH

Sec. 101. Creation of enteric methane product and practice testing capacity through the Agricultural Research Service.

Sec. 102. Training programs for enteric methane livestock emissions.

TITLE II—ON-FARM ENTERIC METHANE EMISSION REDUCTIONS

Sec. 201. On-farm conservation innovation trials.


Sec. 203. Environmental quality incentives program payments.

Sec. 204. Conservation Stewardship Program payments.

SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF SECRETARY.

In this Act, the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

TITLE I—ENABLING ENTERIC METHANE RESEARCH

SEC. 101. CREATION OF ENTERIC METHANE PRODUCT AND PRACTICE TESTING CAPACITY THROUGH THE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE.

(a) In General.—The Secretary, acting through the Administrator of the Agricultural Research Service, shall—

(1) establish and operate laboratory and testing facilities to conduct studies to enhance the understanding of baseline enteric methane emissions and the safety and efficacy of enteric methane-mitigating products and practices;

(2) develop the ongoing capacity of personnel of the Agricultural Research Service with expertise in conducting the studies described in paragraph (1); and
(3) regularly assess—
(A) baseline enteric methane emissions;
(B) the impacts of enteric methane production on animal productivity and animal health and welfare; and
(C) the impacts of enteric methane-mitigating products and practices on greenhouse gas emissions, animal productivity, and animal health and welfare.

(b) ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary, acting through the Administrator of the Agricultural Research Service, may use amounts made available to carry out this section, in accordance with subsection (a)—
(1) to construct federally owned testing facilities;
(2) to purchase assessment technologies;
(3) to retrofit or renovate existing facilities; and
(4) to contract with independent or academic facilities to conduct research.

SEC. 102. TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR ENTERIC METHANE LIVESTOCK EMISSIONS.

Title IV of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 is amended by inserting before section 404 (7 U.S.C. 7624) the following:
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SEC. 401. TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR ENTERIC METHANE LIVESTOCK EMISSIONS.

(a) In General.—The Secretary shall establish or expand at eligible institutions training programs relating to, with respect to enteric methane emissions from livestock—

(1) livestock management and nutrition;

(2) greenhouse gas monitoring, verification, and reporting technologies;

(3) testing skills and capacity;

(4) innovation; and

(5) livestock health and welfare.

(b) Eligible Institutions.—

(1) In general.—An institution eligible for a training program under this section is an 1862 Institution, an 1890 Institution, or a 1994 Institution.

(2) Requirement.—The Secretary shall establish or expand a training program under this section at not less than one 1862 Institution, not less than one 1890 Institution, and not less than one 1994 Institution.
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TITLE II—ON-FARM ENTERIC METHANE EMISSION REDUCTIONS

SEC. 201. ON-FARM CONSERVATION INNOVATION TRIALS.

Section 1240H(c) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–8(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(B)(i)—

(A) in subclause (VI), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) by redesignating subclause (VII) as subclause (VIII); and

(C) by inserting after subclause (VI) the following:

“(VII) livestock-related practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including enteric methane emissions;

and”;

and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(8) ENTERIC METHANE EMISSIONS STUDIES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall carry out one or more stud-
ies on changes in methane emissions and, if feasible, economic outcomes, generated as a result
of livestock-related practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including enteric methane emissions.

“(B) REPORTS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate and the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives a report on the progress and results of the studies under subparagraph (A).”.

SEC. 202. REVIEW OF CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARDS.

Section 1242(h) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3842(h)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5) ENTERIC METHANE EMISSIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall—

“(A) complete a review of conservation practice standards in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this paragraph to consider any revisions to conservation practice standards, including for feed management, or new conservation practice standards that would
be appropriate to assist in reducing enteric methane emissions;

“(B) revise appropriate conservation practice standards in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this paragraph as necessary to assist in reducing enteric methane emissions; and

“(C) establish any appropriate new conservation practice standards to assist in reducing enteric methane emissions.”.

SEC. 203. ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM PAYMENTS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1240A of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–1) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by inserting “management” after “means a”; and

(B) by inserting “land or livestock management” after “set of”; and

(2) in paragraph (6)(A)(ii), by inserting “or livestock” after “land”.

(b) PAYMENTS.—Section 1240B(d) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–2(d)) is amended—
(1) in paragraph (3)(E), by inserting “, including greenhouse gas emission reductions” before the semicolon; and

(2) in paragraph (7)(A)—

(A) in clause (iii), by striking “or” at the end;

(B) by redesignating clause (iv) as clause (v); and

(C) by inserting after clause (iii) the following:

“(iv) provides reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, including enteric methane emissions from livestock; or”.

SEC. 204. CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM PAYMENTS.

(a) Definition of Conservation Activities.—Section 1240I(2)(B)(i) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–21(2)(B)(i)) is amended by inserting “livestock or” after “measures, and”.

(b) Supplemental Payments for Resource-Conserving Crop Rotations, Advanced Grazing Management, and Livestock Feed Management.—Section 1240L(d) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–24(d)) is amended—
(1) in the subsection heading, by striking “AND ADVANCED GRAZING MANAGEMENT” and inserting “, ADVANCED GRAZING MANAGEMENT, AND LIVE-STOCK FEED MANAGEMENT”;

(2) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) and (C) as subparagraphs (C) and (D), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following:

“(B) LIVESTOCK FEED MANAGEMENT.— The term ‘livestock feed management’ means providing livestock with forage and feed that—

“(i) manipulates and controls the quantity and quality of available nutrients, feedstuffs, ingredients, or additives fed to livestock;

“(ii) minimizes excess nutrients in surface water and ground water by reducing the quantity of nitrogen, phosphorus, sulfur, salts, or other nutrients excreted in manure; or

“(iii) reduces emissions of ammonia, odors, greenhouse gases, volatile organic
components, or dust from animal feeding operations.’’;

(3) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “or” at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) livestock feed management.”; and

(4) in paragraph (3), by inserting “, livestock feed management,” after “crop rotations”.