

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1479

To amend the Agricultural Act of 2014 to improve the supplemental agricultural disaster assistance programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 29, 2017

Mr. THUNE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To amend the Agricultural Act of 2014 to improve the supplemental agricultural disaster assistance programs, 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. SUPPLEMENTAL AGRICULTURAL DISASTER AS-**
4 **SISTANCE.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1501 of the Agricultural
6 Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9081) is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (b)(1)—

8 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph

9 (A), by striking “2012” and inserting “2019”;

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

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

5 (D) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(C) disease in livestock that has been ex-
 7 acerbated by adverse weather described in sub-
 8 paragraph (B)—

9 “(i) subject to the condition that a li-
 10 censed veterinarian shall verify that the
 11 adverse weather created conditions contrib-
 12 uting to the livestock death; and

13 “(ii) without regard to any manage-
 14 ment practice, vaccination protocol, or lack
 15 of vaccination by the producer relating to
 16 the disease.”;

17 (2) in subsection (c)—

18 (A) in paragraph (2), in the matter pre-
 19 ceding subparagraph (A), by striking “2012”
 20 and inserting “2019”; and

21 (B) in paragraph (3)(D)(ii)(I)—

22 (i) by striking “at least 8 consecutive”
 23 and inserting the following: “not less
 24 than—

1 “(aa) 4 consecutive weeks
 2 during the normal grazing period
 3 for the county, as determined by
 4 the Secretary, shall be eligible to
 5 receive assistance under this
 6 paragraph in an amount equal to
 7 1 monthly payment using the
 8 monthly payment rate deter-
 9 mined under subparagraph (B);
 10 or

11 “(bb) 8 consecutive”; and
 12 (ii) in item (bb) (as so designated), by
 13 striking “1 monthly payment” and insert-
 14 ing “2 monthly payments”; and
 15 (3) in subsection (d)(1), by striking “2012”
 16 and inserting “2019”.

17 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 18 this section take effect on October 1, 2018.

19 **SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY OF NATIONAL GRASSLANDS FOR GRAZ-**
 20 **ING LEASES AND PERMITS.**

21 Section 402(a) of the Federal Land Policy and Man-
 22 agement Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1752(a)) is amended by
 23 striking “lands within National Forests” and inserting
 24 “National Forest System (as defined in section 11(a) of

- 1 the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning
- 2 Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1609(a)) land”.

