

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7484

To amend the Clean Air Act to eliminate the corn ethanol mandate for renewable fuel.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 7, 2022

Mr. RICE of South Carolina (for himself and Ms. LOFGREN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Clean Air Act to eliminate the corn ethanol mandate for renewable fuel.

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 “Food before Fuel Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

6 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

7 (1) Ukraine accounts for 16 percent of global
8 corn exports and 12 percent of wheat exports.

9 (2) The United States could more than com-
10 pensate for the loss of Ukraine’s exports by divert-

1 ing crops that are to be made into biofuels into food
2 production instead.

3 (3) Almost 70 percent of all United States
4 grain production is corn, but almost half is formu-
5 lated into ethanol to drive cars and trucks.

6 (4) Converting corn into fuel happens only be-
7 cause of a mass of Federal regulations and subsidies
8 that began during the Carter administration.

9 (5) While ethanol may have small environ-
10 mental advantages over gasoline, the benefits are
11 nullified by ethanol's toll on world food output.

12 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
13 gress that the Federal Government should not be
14 incentivizing farmers to grow corn for ethanol while Rus-
15 sia's invasion of Ukraine is jeopardizing the lives of
16 Ukraine's citizens and is on track to cause a severe mal-
17 nutrition across the world. As this supply is cut off, food
18 prices which are already at record levels, will increase at
19 a time when the economic fallout from the pandemic is
20 already harming household budgets, particularly in low-
21 income countries.

1 **SEC. 3. ELIMINATION OF CORN ETHANOL MANDATE FOR**
2 **RENEWABLE FUEL.**

3 (a) REMOVAL OF TABLE.—Section 211(o)(2)(B)(i) of
4 the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7545(o)(2)(B)(i)) is amend-
5 ed by striking subclause (I).

6 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section
7 211(o)(2)(B) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C.
8 7545(o)(2)(B)) is amended—

9 (1) in clause (i)—

10 (A) by redesignating subclauses (II)
11 through (IV) as subclauses (I) through (III),
12 respectively;

13 (B) in subclause (I) (as so redesignated),
14 by striking “of the volume of renewable fuel re-
15 quired under subclause (I),”; and

16 (C) in subclauses (II) and (III) (as so re-
17 designated), by striking “subclause (II)” each
18 place it appears and inserting “subclause (I)”;
19 and

20 (2) in clause (v), by striking “clause (i)(IV)”
21 and inserting “clause (i)(III)”.

22 (c) ADMINISTRATION.—Nothing in this section or the
23 amendments made by this section affects the volumes of
24 advanced biofuel, cellulosic biofuel, or biomass-based diesel

1 that are required under section 211(o) of the Clean Air
2 Act (42 U.S.C. 7545(o)).

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