

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 51

To amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a grant program under which the Secretary will award \$19,000,000 of grant funding to the 19 1890-institutions (\$1,000,000 to each institution), such as Tuskegee University in Alabama, Prairie View A&M University of Texas, Fort Valley State University of Georgia, North Carolina A&T State University, and Florida A&M University, and allocate the \$1,000,000 to each such institution for purposes of awarding scholarships to students attending such institutions, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 3, 2017

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia (for himself, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. FUDGE, Mrs. LOVE, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a grant program under which the Secretary will award \$19,000,000 of grant funding to the 19 1890-institutions (\$1,000,000 to each institution), such as Tuskegee University in Alabama, Prairie View A&M University of Texas, Fort Valley State University of Georgia, North Carolina A&T State University, and Florida A&M University, and allocate the \$1,000,000 to each such institution for purposes of

awarding scholarships to students attending such institutions, 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; FINDINGS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
 5 “Funding for Student Scholarships for the 1890s Land-
 6 Grant African-American Colleges and Universities Act”.

7 (b) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The Act of August 30, 1890 (26 Stat. 419,
 9 chapter 841; 7 U.S.C. 321 et seq.), brought about
 10 the establishment of the following 19 public, Afri-
 11 can-American land-grant colleges and universities:

12 (A) Alabama A&M University.

13 (B) Alcorn State University.

14 (C) Central State University.

15 (D) Delaware State University.

16 (E) Florida A&M University.

17 (F) Fort Valley State University.

18 (G) Kentucky State University.

19 (H) Langston University.

20 (I) Lincoln University.

21 (J) North Carolina A&T State University.

22 (K) Prairie View A&M University.

23 (L) South Carolina State University.

24 (M) Southern University System.

1 (N) Tennessee State University.

2 (O) Tuskegee University.

3 (P) University of Arkansas Pine Bluff.

4 (Q) University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

5 (R) Virginia State University.

6 (S) West Virginia State University.

7 (2) Funding for agricultural education, re-
8 search, and extension at such colleges and univer-
9 sities is authorized to be appropriated to the Depart-
10 ment of Agriculture with each farm bill, which is en-
11 acted approximately every 5 years.

12 (3) The Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law
13 113–79) authorizes the appropriation of Federal
14 funds for research, education, and extension activi-
15 ties at such colleges and universities and the Agri-
16 culture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Admin-
17 istration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act,
18 2016 (Division A of Public Law 114–113) appro-
19 priated \$19,000,000 for education grants for such
20 colleges and universities.

21 (4) There is a great need to increase the num-
22 ber of young African-Americans seeking careers in
23 the food and agricultural sciences (as defined in sec-
24 tion 1404 of the National Agricultural Research,
25 Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7

1 U.S.C. 3103)), including agribusiness, food produc-
2 tion, distribution, and retailing, the clothing indus-
3 tries, energy and renewable fuels, and farming mar-
4 keting, finance, and distribution.

5 (5) Scholarship funding provided to increase
6 the number of young African-American individuals
7 seeking a career in the food and agricultural
8 sciences shall be provided with the caveat that such
9 scholarship students shall commit to pursue a career
10 in the food and agricultural sciences, including agri-
11 business, food production, distribution, and retailing,
12 the clothing industries, energy and renewable fuels,
13 and farming marketing, finance, and distribution.

14 (6) The average age of farmers and producers
15 in the United States is 60 years of age and con-
16 tinues to rise.

17 (7) Beginning farmers and ranchers (as defined
18 in section 7405 of Farm Security and Rural Invest-
19 ment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 3319f)) need greater
20 assistance in the financing of their education be-
21 cause of the increased startup costs associated with
22 farming, such as the purchase of land and farming
23 equipment.

24 (c) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are the fol-
25 lowing:

1 (1) To address the national crisis posed by the
2 aging farmer and producer population in the United
3 States.

4 (2) To increase the number of young African-
5 American individuals seeking a career in the food
6 and agricultural sciences (as defined in section 1404
7 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension,
8 and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103)),
9 including agribusiness, food production, distribution,
10 and retailing, the clothing industries, energy and re-
11 newable fuels, and farming marketing, finance, and
12 distribution.

13 (3) To reduce the average age of farmers and
14 producers in the United States.

15 (4) To provide greater assistance to beginning
16 farmers and ranchers (as defined in section 7405 of
17 Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7
18 U.S.C. 3319f)).

19 (5) To provide scholarships to 1890 land-grant
20 students seeking careers in the food and agricultural
21 sciences.

22 **SEC. 2. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS ATTEND-**
23 **ING 1890-INSTITUTIONS.**

24 Subtitle G of the National Agricultural Research, Ex-
25 tension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 is amended by

1 inserting after section 1445 (7 U.S.C. 3222) the following
 2 new section:

3 **“SEC. 1446. SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS AT 1890 LAND-**
 4 **GRANT COLLEGES, INCLUDING TUSKEGEE**
 5 **UNIVERSITY.**

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a
 7 grant program under which the Secretary will award a
 8 grant to each college eligible to receive funds under the
 9 Act of August 30, 1890 (26 Stat. 417–419, as amended;
 10 7 U.S.C. 321–326 and 328), including Tuskegee Univer-
 11 sity (in this section referred to as ‘eligible institutions’)
 12 for purposes of awarding scholarships to individuals
 13 who—

14 “(1) are seeking to attend such college; and

15 “(2) intend to pursue a career in the food and
 16 agricultural sciences, including a career in agri-
 17 business, food production, distribution, and retailing,
 18 the clothing industries, energy and renewable fuels,
 19 and farming marketing, finance, and distribution.

20 “(b) FUNDING.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the funds of the Com-
 22 modity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall make
 23 available to carry out this section \$19,000,000 for
 24 each of fiscal years 2018 through 2022.

1 “(2) ALLOCATION.—Of the funds made avail-
2 able under paragraph (1) in a fiscal year, the Sec-
3 retary shall allocate to each eligible institution
4 \$1,000,000.”.

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