

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4845

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct surveys to collect data regarding the prevention, reduction, and mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions, soil carbon sequestration, and forest wood and tree carbon sequestration, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 22 (legislative day, OCTOBER 19), 2020

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

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct surveys to collect data regarding the prevention, reduction, and mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions, soil carbon sequestration, and forest wood and tree carbon sequestration, 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 “Agricultural Emissions
5 Data Act of 2020”.

1 **SEC. 2. SURVEYS TO COLLECT DATA REGARDING GREEN-**
2 **HOUSE GAS EMISSIONS, SOIL CARBON SE-**
3 **QUESTRATION, AND FOREST WOOD AND**
4 **TREE CARBON SEQUESTRATION.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture (re-
6 ferred to in this Act as the “Secretary”), through the ef-
7 forts described in subsection (c), shall conduct surveys,
8 and other data collection and data analysis using advanced
9 methods as appropriate, of farmers, ranchers, private for-
10 est landowners, cooperatives, and agricultural businesses,
11 including nonprofit organizations, to collect agricultural
12 subsector-specific information and data regarding—

13 (1) the prevention, reduction, and mitigation of
14 greenhouse gas emissions, including livestock emis-
15 sions reductions;

16 (2) soil carbon sequestration; and

17 (3) forest wood and tree carbon sequestration.

18 (b) ESTABLISHING FEDERAL AGRICULTURAL BASE-
19 LINES.—The establishment of Federal agricultural base-
20 lines for the prevention, reduction, and mitigation of
21 greenhouse gas emissions (including livestock emissions
22 reductions), soil carbon sequestration, and forest wood
23 and tree carbon sequestration shall be determined by mod-
24 eling based on, from the Department of Agriculture—

25 (1) the information and data collected under
26 subsection (a); and

1 (2) information and data, as appropriate, col-
2 lected through the efforts described in subsection (c)
3 before the date of enactment of this Act.

4 (c) SURVEY AUTHORITIES.—The Secretary shall con-
5 duct surveys, data collection, and data analysis under sub-
6 section (a) through—

7 (1) the census of agriculture under section 2 of
8 the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997 (7 U.S.C.
9 2204g);

10 (2) the preparation of annual agricultural sta-
11 tistics by the National Agricultural Statistics Service
12 under—

13 (A) the first section of the Act of May 27,
14 1912 (37 Stat. 118, chapter 135; 7 U.S.C.
15 476);

16 (B) the first section of the Act of June 24,
17 1936 (49 Stat. 1898, chapter 745; 7 U.S.C.
18 951);

19 (C) section 526 of the Revised Statutes (7
20 U.S.C. 2204);

21 (D) section 10016 of the Agricultural Act
22 of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 2204h); and

23 (E) section 7407 of the Farm Security and
24 Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C.
25 5925c);

1 (3) the agricultural resource management sur-
2 vey conducted by the Economic Research Service
3 and the National Agricultural Statistics Service
4 under—

5 (A) sections 202 through 208 of the Agri-
6 cultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621
7 et seq.); and

8 (B) section 1 of the Act of June 29, 1935
9 (49 Stat. 436, chapter 338; 7 U.S.C. 3104);

10 (4) the dairy gas emissions model established
11 by the Agricultural Research Service under section 1
12 of the Act of June 29, 1935 (49 Stat. 436, chapter
13 338; 7 U.S.C. 3104);

14 (5) National Animal Health Monitoring System
15 studies, including beef cow and calf studies, beef
16 feedlot studies, swine studies, dairy studies, sheep
17 studies, and poultry studies, and the health and pro-
18 ductivity audit, carried out by the Animal and Plant
19 Health Inspection Service under the Animal Health
20 Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8301 et seq.);

21 (6) the forest inventory and analysis database
22 established under section 3(e) of the Forest and
23 Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of
24 1978 (16 U.S.C. 1642(e));

1 (7) the natural resources inventory established
2 under section 302 of the Rural Development Act of
3 1972 (7 U.S.C. 1010a); and

4 (8) additional surveys, data collection, and data
5 analysis administered by the Department of Agri-
6 culture, as the Secretary determines to be appro-
7 priate.

8 (d) SUBMISSION.—Consistent with section 1770 of
9 the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 2276), the Sec-
10 retary shall submit to the Administrator of the Environ-
11 mental Protection Agency and the head of any other ap-
12 propriate Federal department or agency, and make pub-
13 licly available, the results of the surveys conducted under
14 subsection (a), as the Secretary determines to be appro-
15 priate.

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