

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 351

To direct the Secretary of Defense to carry out a pilot program to lend Department of Defense farm equipment to eligible farmers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 8, 2019

Mr. YOHO (for himself, Mr. JONES, and Mr. DUNN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Defense to carry out a pilot program to lend Department of Defense farm equipment to eligible farmers, 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 “Equip Ag Act of
5 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FARM EQUIPMENT**
7 **SHARING PILOT PROGRAM.**

8 (a) SURVEY OF DOD EQUIPMENT.—Not later than
9 one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the

1 Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary
2 of Agriculture, shall conduct a survey of the equipment
3 of the Department of Defense to determine which such
4 equipment—

5 (1) would be appropriate for use by farmers
6 through an equipment sharing program; and

7 (2) could be used in an equipment sharing pro-
8 gram without jeopardizing military readiness.

9 (b) PILOT PROGRAM.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense
11 shall establish a pilot program under which the Sec-
12 retary shall lend equipment of the Department iden-
13 tified pursuant to the survey carried out under sub-
14 section (a) to eligible farmers.

15 (2) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to borrow
16 equipment under the pilot program, a farmer shall—

17 (A) be a new and beginning farmer, as de-
18 termined by the Secretary; and

19 (B) submit to the Secretary an application
20 containing such information and assurances as
21 the Secretary may require.

22 (3) LOCATION.—The Secretary shall carry out
23 the pilot program at locations determined by the
24 Secretary.

1 (4) DURATION.—The authority to carry out a
2 pilot program under this section shall terminate on
3 the date that is three years after the date of the
4 commencement of the pilot program.

5 (5) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the
6 termination of the pilot program under this sub-
7 section, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a re-
8 port on the pilot program that includes the rec-
9 ommendations of the Secretary with respect to the
10 extension and expansion of the program.

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