

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 3276
OFFERED BY MRS. DINGELL OF MICHIGAN**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Local Communities
3 & Bird Habitat Stewardship Act of 2025”.

4 SEC. 2. URBAN BIRD TREATY PROGRAM.

5 (a) URBAN BIRD TREATY PROGRAM.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall establish
7 a program for the voluntary conservation of birds
8 and the habitats of such birds in urban areas, to be
9 known as the “Urban Bird Treaty Program”.

10 (2) PROGRAM DUTIES.—In carrying out the
11 Program, the Director shall—

12 (A) work with and support covered entities
13 to—

14 (i) protect, restore, or enhance urban
15 habitats for birds, including through the
16 control of invasive species and restoration
17 of native plant species;

18 (ii) reduce urban hazards to birds;

1 (iii) engage communities in scientific
2 activities involving the monitoring of birds
3 and the habitats of such birds in urban
4 areas; and

5 (iv) educate and engage communities
6 in caring about and conserving birds and
7 the habitats of such birds in urban areas;

8 (B) provide technical and financial assist-
9 ance through partnerships with covered entities
10 to build capacity for, plan, and carry out
11 projects related to activities described in sub-
12 paragraph (A); and

13 (C) facilitate collaboration and information
14 sharing among covered entities and the public
15 with respect to best management practices for
16 the conservation, restoration, and enhancement
17 of urban bird habitats.

18 (3) GRANT PROGRAM.—

19 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall es-
20 tablish a competitive grant program to award
21 amounts to eligible entities for the purposes of
22 conducting research, planning, assessments,
23 management, building capacity, monitoring, col-
24 laboration and information sharing, workforce
25 training, and accomplishing related activities as

1 described in paragraph (2) with respect to the
2 conservation, restoration, enhancement or man-
3 agement of urban birds and the habitats of
4 urban birds.

5 (B) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible for a
6 grant under this paragraph, an eligible entity
7 shall submit to the Director an application in
8 such form, at such time, and containing such
9 information as the Director determines appro-
10 priate.

11 (C) ADMINISTRATION.—

12 (i) AGREEMENT.—The Director may
13 enter into an agreement with the Founda-
14 tion for the Foundation to administer the
15 grant program established under subpara-
16 graph (A) pursuant to the National Fish
17 and Wildlife Foundation Establishment
18 Act (16 U.S.C. 3701 et seq.).

19 (ii) APPLICATION OF NATIONAL FISH
20 AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION ESTABLISH-
21 MENT ACT.—Section 10(a) of the National
22 Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establish-
23 ment Act (16 U.S.C. 3709(a)) shall not
24 apply with respect to—

1 (I) an agreement entered into
2 under clause (i); or

3 (II) amounts made available to
4 carry out this section.

5 (iii) GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.—

6 The Director shall ensure, to the extent
7 practicable, equitable distribution of
8 awards among and between small, midsize,
9 and large cities, as described in the docu-
10 ment titled “Education Demographic and
11 Geographic Estimates Program (EDGE):
12 Locale Boundaries Technical Documenta-
13 tion” published by the National Center for
14 Education Statistics of the Department of
15 Education.

16 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17 (1) COVERED ENTITY.—The term “covered en-
18 tity” means—

19 (A) a Federal, Tribal, State, or municipal
20 agency;

21 (B) a nongovernmental organization;

22 (C) a community group; and

23 (D) an academic institution.

24 (2) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
25 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-

1 rector of the United States Fish and Wildlife Serv-
2 ice.

3 (3) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-
4 ty” means—

5 (A) a Tribal, State, or municipal agency;

6 (B) a nongovernmental organization;

7 (C) a community group; and

8 (D) an academic institution.

9 (4) FOUNDATION.—The term “Foundation”
10 means the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
11 established by section 2(a) of the National Fish and
12 Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act (16 U.S.C.
13 3701(a)).

14 (5) PROGRAM.—The term “Program” means
15 the Urban Bird Treaty Program established under
16 subsection (a)(1).

17 (6) URBAN.—The term “urban” has the mean-
18 ing given the term “urban area” in section 101(a)
19 of title 23, United States Code.

20 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
21 authorized to be appropriated to the Director to carry out
22 this section \$200,000 for each of fiscal years 2027
23 through 2033.

