

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5015

To amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, to enter into contracts, grants, and agreements to carry out certain ecosystem restoration activities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 27, 2023

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, to enter into contracts, grants, and agreements to carry out certain ecosystem restoration activities, 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 “Seedlings for Sustain-
5 able Habitat Restoration Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND AGREEMENTS TO CARRY**
2 **OUT CERTAIN ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION AC-**
3 **TIVITIES.**

4 (a) **CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND AGREEMENTS.**—Sec-
5 tion 40804 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act
6 (16 U.S.C. 6592a) is amended by adding at the end the
7 following:

8 “(g) **CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND AGREEMENTS.**—To
9 carry out the ecosystem restoration activities described in
10 subsection (b), the Secretary of Agriculture, acting
11 through the Chief of the Forest Service, may enter into
12 contracts, grants, or agreements with State forestry agen-
13 cies, local private or nonprofit entities, institutions of
14 higher education (as defined in section 101(a) of the High-
15 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a))), and
16 multistate coalitions—

17 “(1) for the collection and maintenance of na-
18 tive seeds, including material from managed seed or-
19 chards; and

20 “(2) for the production of seedlings for revege-
21 tation.”.

22 (b) **COLLABORATIVE FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORA-**
23 **TION PROGRAM.**—Section 4003(b)(7) of the Omnibus
24 Public Land Management Act of 2009 (16 U.S.C.
25 7303(b)(7)) is amended—

1 (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),
2 by inserting “the collection and maintenance of na-
3 tive seeds for revegetation, the production of seed-
4 lings, and” after “or agreements for”;

5 (2) by redesignating subparagraphs (B)
6 through (D) as subparagraphs (C) through (E), re-
7 spectively; and

8 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the fol-
9 lowing:

10 “(B) institutions of higher education (as
11 defined in section 101(a) of the Higher Edu-
12 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)));”.

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