

Amendment No.

Offered by Rep. Gabe Vasquez (NM-02)

Amendment Description:

Re-instates the Inflation Reduction Act's climate sideboards by permanently ensuring the IRA funding rolled into the conservation baseline is focused on climate-smart practices.

Revision: The amendment updates the percentage of program funding USDA must spend on climate-smart practices.

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 8467
OFFERED BY MR. VASQUEZ OF NEW MEXICO

Beginning on page 142, strike line 19 and all that follows through page 144, line 4 and insert the following:

1 (3) by amending paragraph (2) to read as fol-
2 lows:

3 “(2)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), the agri-
4 cultural conservation easement program under sub-
5 title H, using, to the maximum extent practicable—

6 “(i) \$600,000,000 for fiscal year 2025;

7 “(ii) \$625,000,000 for fiscal year 2026;

8 “(iii) \$650,000,000 for fiscal year 2027;

9 “(iv) \$675,000,000 for fiscal year 2028;

10 and

11 “(v) \$700,000,000 for fiscal year 2029.

12 “(B) Of the funds made available under sub-
13 paragraph (A), for each fiscal year, a percentage of
14 such funds, which is not less than the percentage of
15 funds made available to carry out the agricultural
16 conservation easement program for the preceding
17 fiscal year that was expended on easements or inter-
18 ests in land that would reduce, capture, avoid, or se-
19 quester carbon dioxide, methane, or nitrous oxide

1 emissions, shall be available for easements or inter-
2 ests in land that will most reduce, capture, avoid, or
3 sequester carbon dioxide, methane, or nitrous oxide
4 emissions associated with land eligible under the
5 program.”;

6 (4) by amending paragraph (3) to read as fol-
7 lows:

8 “(3) The programs under chapter 4, using, to
9 the maximum extent practicable, the following:

10 “(A)(i) Subject to clause (ii), for the envi-
11 ronmental quality incentives program under
12 subchapter A of chapter 4—

13 “(I) \$2,400,000,000 for fiscal year
14 2025;

15 “(II) \$2,600,000,000 for fiscal year
16 2026;

17 “(III) \$2,800,000,000 for fiscal year
18 2027;

19 “(IV) \$3,100,000,000 for fiscal year
20 2028; and

21 “(V) \$3,120,000,000 for fiscal year
22 2029.

23 “(ii) Of the funds made available under
24 clause (i), for each fiscal year, a percentage of
25 such funds, which is not less than the percent-

1 age of funds made available to carry out the en-
2 vironmental quality incentives program for the
3 preceding fiscal year that was expended on pay-
4 ments for the implementation of 1 or more ag-
5 ricultural conservation practices or enhance-
6 ments that the Secretary determined would di-
7 rectly improve soil carbon, reduce nitrogen
8 losses, or reduce, capture, avoid, or sequester
9 carbon dioxide, methane, or nitrous oxide emis-
10 sions, associated with agricultural production,
11 shall—

12 “(I) be available for payments for the
13 implementation of 1 or more agricultural
14 conservation practices or enhancements
15 that the Secretary determines directly im-
16 prove soil carbon, reduce nitrogen losses,
17 or reduce, capture, avoid, or sequester car-
18 bon dioxide, methane, or nitrous oxide
19 emissions, associated with agricultural pro-
20 duction; and

21 “(II) not be included in the amount
22 made available for payments under the
23 program for purposes of calculating the
24 percentage required to be targeted under
25 section 1240B(f)(1).

1 “(B)(i) Subject to clause (ii), for the con-
2 servation stewardship program under sub-
3 chapter B of chapter 4—

4 “(I) \$1,275,000,000 for fiscal year
5 2025;

6 “(II) \$1,300,000,000 for fiscal year
7 2026;

8 “(III) \$1,325,000,000 for fiscal year
9 2027;

10 “(IV) \$1,350,000,000 for fiscal year
11 2028; and

12 “(V) \$1,375,000,000 for fiscal year
13 2029.

14 “(ii) Of the funds made available under
15 clause (i), for each fiscal year, a percentage of
16 such funds, which is not less than the percent-
17 age of funds made available to carry out the
18 conservation stewardship program for the pre-
19 ceding fiscal year that was expended on con-
20 tracts for 1 or more agricultural conservation
21 practices, enhancements, or bundles that the
22 Secretary determined would directly improve
23 soil carbon, reduce nitrogen losses, or reduce,
24 capture, avoid, or sequester carbon dioxide,
25 methane, or nitrous oxide emissions, associated

1 with agricultural production, shall be available
2 for contracts for 1 or more agricultural con-
3 servation practices, enhancements, or bundles
4 that the Secretary determines directly improve
5 soil carbon, reduce nitrogen losses, or reduce,
6 capture, avoid, or sequester carbon dioxide,
7 methane, or nitrous oxide emissions, associated
8 with agricultural production.”; and

Beginning on page 144, strike lines 15 through 23
and insert the following:

9 “(6)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), the re-
10 gional conservation partnership program under sub-
11 title J, using, to the maximum extent practicable—

12 “(i) \$400,000,000 for fiscal year 2025;

13 “(ii) \$425,000,000 for fiscal year 2026;

14 “(iii) \$450,000,000 for fiscal year 2027;

15 “(iv) \$450,000,000 for fiscal year 2028;

16 and

17 “(v) \$450,000,000 for fiscal year 2029.

18 “(B) For each fiscal year—

19 “(i) of the funds made available under sub-
20 paragraph (A), a percentage of such funds,
21 which is not less than the percentage of funds
22 made available to carry out the regional con-
23 servation partnership program for the preceding

1 fiscal year that was expended to fund partner-
2 ship agreements under section 1271C(d) to sup-
3 port the implementation of conservation
4 projects to assist agricultural producers and
5 nonindustrial private forestland owners in di-
6 rectly improving soil carbon, reducing nitrogen
7 losses, or reducing, capturing, avoiding, or se-
8 questrating carbon dioxide, methane, or nitrous
9 oxide emissions, associated with agricultural
10 production, shall be available for the Secretary
11 for partnership agreements under section
12 1271C(d) that support the implementation of
13 conservation projects that assist agricultural
14 producers and nonindustrial private forestland
15 owners in directly improving soil carbon, reduc-
16 ing nitrogen losses, or reducing, capturing,
17 avoiding, or sequestering carbon dioxide, meth-
18 ane, or nitrous oxide emissions, associated with
19 agricultural production; and

20 “(ii) partnership agreements described in
21 clause (i) funded by the funds available under
22 such clause shall not apply toward the limita-
23 tion described in section 1271C(d)(2)(B).”.

