

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 4909
OFFERED BY MR. BRIDENSTINE OF OKLAHOMA

At the end of title XXVIII add the following:

1 **SEC. ____ . IMPLEMENTATION OF LESSER PRAIRIE-CHICKEN**
2 **RANGE-WIDE CONSERVATION PLAN AND**
3 **OTHER CONSERVATION MEASURES.**

4 (a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

5 (1) **CANDIDATE CONSERVATION AGREE-**
6 **MENTS.**—The terms “Candidate Conservation
7 Agreement” and “Candidate and Conservation
8 Agreement With Assurances” have the meaning
9 given those terms in—

10 (A) the announcement of the Department
11 of the Interior and the Department of Com-
12 merce entitled “Announcement of Final Policy
13 for Candidate Conservation Agreements with
14 Assurances” (64 Fed. Reg. 32726 (June 17,
15 1999)); and

16 (B) sections 17.22(d) and 17.32(d) of title
17 50, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on
18 the date of enactment of this Act).

19 (2) **RANGE-WIDE PLAN.**—The term “Range-
20 Wide Plan” means the Lesser Prairie-Chicken

1 Range-Wide Conservation Plan of the Western Asso-
2 ciation of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, as endorsed by
3 the United States Fish and Wildlife Service on Octo-
4 ber 23, 2013, and published for comment on Janu-
5 ary 29, 2014 (79 Fed. Reg. 4652).

6 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
7 the Secretary of the Interior.

8 (b) PROHIBITION ON TREATMENT AS THREATENED
9 OR ENDANGERED SPECIES.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any prior
11 action by the Secretary, the lesser prairie-chicken
12 shall not be treated as a threatened species or en-
13 dangered species under the Endangered Species Act
14 of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) before December
15 31, 2022.

16 (2) PROHIBITION ON PROPOSAL.—Effective be-
17 ginning on January 1, 2023, the lesser prairie-chick-
18 en may not be treated as a threatened species or en-
19 dangered species under the Endangered Species Act
20 of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) unless the Sec-
21 retary publishes a determination, based on the total-
22 ity of the scientific evidence, that conservation (as
23 that term is used in that Act) under the Range-Wide
24 Plan and the agreements, programs, and efforts re-

1 ferred to in subsection (c) have not achieved the con-
2 servation goals established by the Range-Wide Plan.

3 (c) MONITORING OF PROGRESS OF CONSERVATION
4 PROGRAMS.—The Secretary shall monitor and annually
5 submit to Congress a report on progress in conservation
6 of the lesser prairie-chicken under the Range-Wide Plan
7 and all related—

8 (1) Candidate Conservation Agreements and
9 Candidate and Conservation Agreements With As-
10 surances;

11 (2) other Federal conservation programs admin-
12 istered by the United States Fish and Wildlife Serv-
13 ice, the Bureau of Land Management, and the De-
14 partment of Agriculture;

15 (3) State conservation programs; and

16 (4) private conservation efforts.

17 **SEC. ____ . REMOVAL OF ENDANGERED SPECIES STATUS**
18 **FOR AMERICAN BURYING BEETLE.**

19 Notwithstanding the final rule of the United States
20 Fish and Wildlife Service entitled “Endangered and
21 Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Determination of Endan-
22 gered Status for the American Burying Beetle” (54 Fed.
23 Reg. 29652 (July 13, 1989)), the American burying beetle
24 shall not be listed as a threatened species or endangered

- 1 species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16
- 2 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

