



AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To authorize the establishment of national and regional agroforestry centers.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—119th Cong., 1st Sess.

S. 1462

To improve forest management activities on National Forest System land, public land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, and Tribal land to return resilience to overgrown, fire-prone forested land, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. WELCH

Viz:

1 At the end of subtitle B of title I, add the following:

2 **SEC. 120A. NATIONAL AND REGIONAL AGROFORESTRY CEN-**
3 **TERS.**

4 Section 1243 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation,
5 and Trade Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 1642 note; Public Law
6 101-624) is amended—

7 (1) by striking the section heading and insert-
8 ing “**NATIONAL AND REGIONAL AGRO-**
9 **FORESTRY CENTERS**”;

1 (2) by redesignating subsections (a), (b), (c),
2 and (d) as subsections (b), (d), (e), and (g), respec-
3 tively;

4 (3) by inserting before subsection (b) (as so re-
5 designated) the following:

6 “(a) DEFINITION OF AGROFORESTRY.—In this sec-
7 tion, the term ‘agroforestry’ means a management system
8 that intentionally integrates trees and shrubs into crop
9 and animal farming systems to build more profitable and
10 weather-resilient farms, ranches, and communities, ad-
11 dress natural resource concerns and conservation needs,
12 and establish productive and sustainable land use prac-
13 tices, including—

14 “(1) riparian forest buffers;

15 “(2) alley cropping;

16 “(3) silvopasture;

17 “(4) forest farming and multistory cropping;

18 and

19 “(5) windbreaks, shelterbelts, hedgerows, and
20 living snow fences.”;

21 (4) in subsection (b) (as so redesignated)—

22 (Λ) in the subsection heading, by striking

23 “SEMIARID” and inserting “NATIONAL”;

1 (B) by inserting “(referred to in this sec-
2 tion as the ‘Secretary’)” after “Secretary of Ag-
3 riculture”;

4 (C) by striking “Semiarid Agroforestry Re-
5 search, Development, and Demonstration Cen-
6 ter (hereafter referred to in this section as the
7 ‘Center’)” and inserting “National Agroforestry
8 Research, Development, and Demonstration
9 Center”; and

10 (D) by striking “subsection (b)” and in-
11 serting “subsection (d)”;

12 (5) by inserting after subsection (b) (as so re-
13 designated) the following:

14 “(c) REGIONAL AGROFORESTRY CENTERS.—

15 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, acting
16 through the Chief of the Forest Service and in co-
17 operation with the Natural Resources Conservation
18 Service, shall, subject to the availability of appro-
19 priations, establish 1 or more regional agroforestry
20 centers to advance agroforestry research, outreach,
21 technical assistance, and adoption.

22 “(2) REGIONAL DIRECTORS.—The Secretary,
23 acting through the Chief of the Forest Service and
24 in cooperation with the Natural Resources Conserva-
25 tion Service, shall appoint a regional director to

1 manage and coordinate each regional agroforestry
2 center established under paragraph (1).

3 “(3) LOCATION.—In selecting the locations for
4 the 1 or more regional agroforestry centers under
5 paragraph (1), the Secretary shall prioritize loca-
6 tions at which the Department has, on the date of
7 enactment of the Fix Our Forests Act, at least 1
8 employee providing coordination among a diverse
9 group of research institutions and other partners.”;

10 (6) in subsection (d) (as so redesignated)—

11 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph
12 (1)—

13 (i) by striking “Center” and inserting
14 “centers established under subsections (b)
15 and (c) (referred to in this section as the
16 ‘Centers’)”;

17 (ii) by inserting “and organizations”
18 after “nonprofit foundations”; and

19 (iii) by inserting “demonstration
20 projects,” after “studies,”;

21 (B) in paragraph (1)—

22 (i) by striking “on semiarid lands
23 that” and inserting “that build soil health
24 and”; and

1 (ii) by inserting “, including agro-
2 forestry systems on semiarid land and
3 other fragile agroecosystems where perma-
4 nent woody perennial plant communities
5 can enhance carbon sequestration and re-
6 duce greenhouse gas emissions” before the
7 semicolon;

8 (C) in paragraph (3), by striking “forestry
9 products for commercial sale from semiarid
10 land” and inserting “agroforestry products for
11 commercial sale”;

12 (D) in paragraph (4)—

13 (i) by striking “in semiarid regions”;
14 and

15 (ii) by striking “the Great Plains re-
16 gion” and inserting “particular regions”;

17 (E) in paragraph (5), by inserting “tech-
18 nical assistance, demonstration projects, and”
19 before “technology”;

20 (F) by redesignating paragraphs (7)
21 through (11) as paragraphs (8) through (12),
22 respectively;

23 (G) by striking paragraph (6) and insert-
24 ing the following:

1 “(6) develop improved silvopasture, alley crop-
2 ping, forest farming, multistory cropping, riparian
3 buffer, windbreak and shelterbelt, and other peren-
4 nial production and conservation systems and tech-
5 nologies to improve soil health, carbon sequestration,
6 drought preparedness, soil and water conservation,
7 environmental quality, and biological diversity;

8 “(7) address barriers to the adoption of agro-
9 forestry practices, including—

10 “(A) insufficient access to plant material;

11 “(B) insufficient infrastructure to contain
12 equipment and plant material;

13 “(C) insufficient machinery to implement
14 agroforestry practices;

15 “(D) insufficient technical service assist-
16 ance; and

17 “(E) insufficient research related to agro-
18 forestry systems, including silvopasture and
19 alley cropping;”;

20 (H) in paragraph (8) (as so redesignated),
21 by striking “on semiarid lands”;

22 (I) in paragraph (9) (as so redesignated),
23 by striking “on semiarid lands worldwide” and
24 inserting “worldwide, including on semiarid
25 land”; and

1 (J) in paragraph (10) (as so redesign-
2 nated)—

3 (i) by striking “on semiarid lands”;
4 and

5 (ii) by inserting “and climate change”
6 after “pollution”;

7 (7) in subsection (e) (as so redesignated)—

8 (A) in the subsection heading, by inserting
9 “AND DATA” after “INFORMATION”;

10 (B) in the matter preceding paragraph
11 (1)—

12 (i) by striking “Secretary shall estab-
13 lish at the Center” and inserting “Sec-
14 retary, in collaboration with the Economic
15 Research Service and the National Agricul-
16 tural Statistics Service, shall establish at
17 the Centers”; and

18 (ii) by striking “Promotion” and in-
19 serting “Promotion,”;

20 (C) in paragraph (1)—

21 (i) by inserting “and data” after “in-
22 formation”; and

23 (ii) by striking “and” at the end;

24 (D) in paragraph (2)—

1 (i) by inserting “and data” after “in-
2 formation”;

3 (ii) by striking “forestry” and insert-
4 ing “forestry, agroforestry,”; and

5 (iii) by striking the period at the end
6 and inserting “; and”; and

7 (E) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(3) facilitate agroforestry adoption by dissemi-
9 nating comprehensive information and data on Fed-
10 eral, State, local, and Tribal programs that provide
11 support for agroforestry.”;

12 (8) by inserting after subsection (e) (as so re-
13 designated) the following:

14 “(f) GRANTS.—The Secretary shall establish at the
15 Centers regional grant programs to support agroforestry
16 projects, including demonstration farms.”; and

17 (9) in subsection (g) (as so redesignated)—

18 (A) by striking “There are” and inserting
19 “In addition to amounts otherwise available,
20 there is”; and

21 (B) by striking “\$5,000,000 for each of
22 fiscal years 2019 through 2023” and inserting
23 “\$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026
24 through 2030”.