

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To require the Military Veterans Agricultural Liaison to provide certain outreach to veterans with respect to agricultural employment.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—115th Cong., 2d Sess.

S. _____

To provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENTS intended to be proposed by Ms. SMITH

Viz:

1 In section 12402(1), strike subparagraph (C) and in-
2 sert the following:

3 (C) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(5) establish and periodically update the
5 website described in subsection (d).”; and

6 In section 12402, strike paragraph (2) and insert the
7 following:

8 (2) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(d) WEBSITE REQUIRED.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The website required under
2 subsection (b)(5) shall include the following:

3 “(A) Positions identified within the De-
4 partment of Agriculture that are available to
5 veterans for apprenticeships.

6 “(B) Apprenticeships, programs of training
7 on the job, and programs of education that are
8 approved for purposes of chapter 36 of title 38,
9 United States Code.

10 “(C) Employment skills training programs
11 for members of the Armed Forces carried out
12 pursuant to section 1143(e) of title 10, United
13 States Code.

14 “(D) Information designed to assist busi-
15 nesses, nonprofit entities, educational institu-
16 tions, and farmers interested in developing ap-
17 prenticeships, on-the-job training, educational,
18 or entrepreneurial programs for veterans in
19 navigating the process of having a program ap-
20 proved by a State approving agency for pur-
21 poses of chapter 36 of title 38, United States
22 Code, including—

23 “(i) contact information for relevant
24 offices in the Department of Defense, De-
25 partment of Veterans Affairs, Department

1 of Labor, and Small Business Administra-
2 tion;

3 “(ii) basic requirements for approval
4 by each State approving agency;

5 “(iii) recommendations with respect to
6 training and coursework to be used during
7 apprenticeships or on-the-job training that
8 will enable a veteran to be eligible for agri-
9 cultural programs; and

10 “(iv) examples of successful programs
11 and curriculums that have been approved
12 for purposes of chapter 36 of title 38,
13 United States Code (with consent of the
14 organization and without any personally
15 identifiable information).

16 “(2) REVIEW OF WEBSITE.—

17 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 5 years
18 after the date of enactment of this paragraph,
19 and once every 5 years thereafter, the Secretary
20 shall conduct a study to determine if the
21 website required under subsection (b)(5) is ef-
22 fective in providing veterans the information re-
23 quired under paragraph (1).

24 “(B) INEFFECTIVE WEBSITE.—If the Sec-
25 retary determines that the website is not effec-

1 tive under subparagraph (A), the Secretary
2 shall—

3 “(i) notify the agriculture and vet-
4 erans committees described in subpara-
5 graph (C) of that determination; and

6 “(ii) not earlier than 180 days after
7 the date on which the Secretary provides
8 notice under clause (i), terminate the
9 website.

10 “(C) AGRICULTURE AND VETERANS COM-
11 MITTEES.—The agriculture and veterans com-
12 mittees referred to in subparagraph (B)(i)
13 are—

14 “(i) the Committee on Agriculture of
15 the House of Representatives;

16 “(ii) the Committee on Agriculture,
17 Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate;

18 “(iii) the Committee on Veterans’ Af-
19 fairs of the House of Representatives; and

20 “(iv) the Committee on Veterans’ Af-
21 fairs of the Senate.

22 “(e) CONSULTATION REQUIRED.—In carrying out
23 this section, the Secretary shall consult with organizations
24 that serve veterans.

25 “(f) REPORT.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
2 the date of enactment of this subsection, and annu-
3 ally thereafter, the Military Veterans Agricultural
4 Liaison shall submit a report on beginning farmer
5 training for veterans and agricultural vocational and
6 rehabilitation programs for veterans to—

7 “(A) the Committee on Agriculture of the
8 House of Representatives;

9 “(B) the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs
10 of the House of Representatives;

11 “(C) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutri-
12 tion, and Forestry of the Senate; and

13 “(D) the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs
14 of the Senate.

15 “(2) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—The report sub-
16 mitted under paragraph (1) shall include—

17 “(A) a summary of the measures taken to
18 carry out subsections (b) and (c);

19 “(B) a description of the information pro-
20 vided to veterans under paragraphs (1) and (2)
21 of subsection (b);

22 “(C) recommendations for best informing
23 veterans of the programs described in para-
24 graphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b);

1 “(D) a summary of the contracts or coop-
2 erative agreements entered into under sub-
3 section (c);

4 “(E) a description of the programs imple-
5 mented under subsection (c);

6 “(F) a summary of the employment out-
7 reach activities directed to veterans;

8 “(G) recommendations for how opportuni-
9 ties for veterans in agriculture should be devel-
10 oped or expanded;

11 “(H) a summary of veteran farm lending
12 data and a summary of shortfalls, if any, iden-
13 tified by the Military Veterans Agricultural Li-
14 aison in collecting data with respect to veterans
15 engaged in agriculture; and

16 “(I) recommendations, if any, on how to
17 improve activities under subsection (b).

18 “(g) PUBLIC DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
20 the date of enactment of this subsection, and annu-
21 ally thereafter, the Military Veterans Agricultural
22 Liaison shall make publicly available and share
23 broadly, including by posting on the website of the
24 Department—

1 “(A) the report of the Military Veterans
2 Agricultural Liaison on beginning farmer train-
3 ing for veterans and agricultural vocational and
4 rehabilitation programs; and

5 “(B) the information disseminated under
6 paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b).

7 “(2) FURTHER DISSEMINATION.—Not later
8 than the day before the date on which the Military
9 Veterans Agricultural Liaison makes publicly avail-
10 able the information under paragraph (1), the Mili-
11 tary Veterans Agricultural Liaison shall provide that
12 information to the Department of Defense, the De-
13 partment of Veterans Affairs, the Small Business
14 Administration, and the Department of Labor.”.