

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to reauthorize the position of Farmworker Coordinator.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. WYDEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to reauthorize the position of Farmworker Coordinator.

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 “Voice for Farm Work-
5 ers Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. FARMWORKER COORDINATOR.**

7 Section 226B(f) of the Department of Agriculture
8 Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6934(f)) is amend-
9 ed—

1 (1) in paragraph (2)—

2 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking “or-
3 ganizations” and inserting “organizations, insti-
4 tutions of higher education, and local edu-
5 cational agencies”;

6 (B) in subparagraph (E), by striking “in-
7 stitutions on research, program improvements,
8 or agricultural education opportunities” and in-
9 serting “institutions or community-based non-
10 profit organizations on research, program im-
11 provements, agricultural education opportuni-
12 ties, or technical skills and job training pro-
13 grams”; and

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

15 “(G) Assessing the effectiveness with re-
16 spect to farmworkers of Department outreach
17 programs.

18 “(H) Developing and implementing a plan
19 to coordinate outreach activities and services
20 provided by the Department with respect to
21 farmworkers.

22 “(I) Collaborating with and providing
23 input on programmatic and policy decisions re-
24 lating to farmworkers to the agencies and of-
25 fices of the Department, including—

- 1 “(i) the Farm Service Agency;
- 2 “(ii) the Natural Resources Conserva-
- 3 tion Service;
- 4 “(iii) the rural development mission
- 5 area;
- 6 “(iv) the National Institute of Food
- 7 and Agriculture;
- 8 “(v) the Food and Nutrition Service;
- 9 “(vi) the Agricultural Marketing Serv-
- 10 ice;
- 11 “(vii) the Forest Service;
- 12 “(viii) the National Agricultural Sta-
- 13 tistics Service; and
- 14 “(ix) any other agency or office that
- 15 the Coordinator determines to be appro-
- 16 priate.
- 17 “(J) Communicating to employers of farm-
- 18 workers, and publicizing on the website of the
- 19 Department, information about Federal pro-
- 20 grams for which the employees of those employ-
- 21 ers may be eligible.
- 22 “(K) Identifying research priorities to in-
- 23 form the research activities of the Department
- 24 relating to farmworkers.

1 “(L) Measuring and analyzing outcomes of
2 the programs and activities of the Department
3 on farmworkers.

4 “(M) Recommending new initiatives and
5 programs to the Secretary.

6 “(N) Carrying out any other related duties
7 that the Secretary determines to be appro-
8 priate.”;

9 (2) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-
10 graph (4);

11 (3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-
12 lowing:

13 “(3) STAFF.—The Secretary, acting through
14 the Coordinator, shall employ such staff as the Sec-
15 retary determines necessary to carry out the duties
16 described in paragraph (2).”; and

17 (4) in paragraph (4) (as so redesignated), in
18 subparagraph (B), by striking “2023” and inserting
19 “2029”.