

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To promote and enhance urban agricultural production and agricultural research in urban areas, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. KAPTUR introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To promote and enhance urban agricultural production and agricultural research in urban areas, and for other purposes.

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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “Urban Agriculture Production Act of 2017”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of  
7 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Definitions.
- Sec. 3. Findings.
- Sec. 4. Urban agriculture outreach program.

- Sec. 5. Urban agriculture liaison.
- Sec. 6. Urban agriculture research initiative.
- Sec. 7. Agriculture programs.
- Sec. 8. Improving agricultural reporting.
- Sec. 9. Study and report.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
4 the Secretary of Agriculture.

5 (2) URBAN AGRICULTURE.—The term “urban  
6 agriculture” means the production of food and non-  
7 food plants and animal husbandry in an urban area  
8 and may include household, school, and community  
9 gardens, food bank production sites, urban farms,  
10 hoop houses, chicken coops and beehives, aqua-  
11 culture, hydroponics and aquaponics facilities, and  
12 rooftop, vertical, and indoor farms.

13 (3) URBAN AREA.—The term “urban area”  
14 means an area within a Metropolitan Statistical  
15 Area (as defined by the Office of Management and  
16 Budget).

17 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS.**

18 Congress finds the following:

19 (1) Dramatic economic, demographic, and land  
20 use changes have created pockets of land suitable for  
21 urban agriculture.

22 (2) United States population is increasing at a  
23 rate of 0.69 percent annually, and by 2050 it is ex-

1       pected that the United States population will in-  
2       crease to 398 million.

3           (3) Despite the United States being an ad-  
4       vanced economy, many neighborhoods and commu-  
5       nities are categorically food and nutrient short popu-  
6       lations.

7           (4) Advances in agricultural practices, tech-  
8       nologies, and natural resources make production ag-  
9       riculture possible in previously ignored locations in-  
10      cluding urban areas that were once cordoned off  
11      from agricultural production.

12          (5) There is a disconnect between daily urban  
13      life, health outcomes, and food production that  
14      urban agriculture can help address.

15          (6) According to the 2012 Census of Agri-  
16      culture, approximately 7 percent of all farms in the  
17      United States had direct sales of agricultural prod-  
18      ucts totaling at least \$1,300,000,000, with the high-  
19      est of such sales coming from farms in metropolitan  
20      counties or in adjacent rural counties.

21          (7) It is imperative to ensure that advances in  
22      urban agriculture be available as a viable option to  
23      help meet the food production needs of the future  
24      and to address chronic food and nutrition shortages  
25      of communities.

1 **SEC. 4. URBAN AGRICULTURE OUTREACH PROGRAM.**

2 (a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary shall es-  
3 tablish an urban agriculture outreach program under  
4 which the Secretary shall award grants on a competitive  
5 basis to eligible entities to support outreach activities for  
6 any of the following:

7 (1) Infrastructure, including production and  
8 distribution systems, to support urban agriculture.

9 (2) Land acquisition, land conversion, and soil  
10 and growing mechanism assistance to support urban  
11 agriculture, including in and around brownfields, va-  
12 cant lots, or other underutilized tracts of land.

13 (3) Education and training to enhance urban  
14 agriculture.

15 (4) Technical and financial assistance to farm-  
16 ers, producers, or ranchers in urban areas for—

17 (A) the aggregation of the farmers', pro-  
18 ducers', or ranchers' products and supplies for  
19 purposes of transportation to market; and

20 (B) managing urban agriculture farm op-  
21 erations in accordance with local laws and prac-  
22 tices.

23 (5) Other activities that support urban agri-  
24 culture, as determined by the Secretary.

25 (b) GRANT REQUIREMENTS.—

1           (1) GRANT TERM.—The term of a grant award-  
2           ed under this section shall be not less than one year.

3           (2) EXTENSION OF GRANT TERM.—A grant  
4           awarded under this section may be extended at the  
5           discretion of the Secretary.

6           (3) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary  
7           shall provide technical assistance to eligible entities  
8           that are awarded a grant under this section.

9           (c) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this sec-  
10          tion, the Secretary shall give a preference to an eligible  
11          entity seeking a grant for outreach activities to be carried  
12          out in a historically underserved community.

13          (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

14           (1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-  
15          ty” means—

16           (A) a community organization with experi-  
17          ence in urban agriculture;

18           (B) a nonprofit or charitable organization;

19           (C) a historically underserved community;

20           (D) a local governmental entity or local  
21          park system;

22           (E) a local educational agency (as defined  
23          in section 8101 of the Elementary and Sec-  
24          ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
25          7801));

1 (F) an institution of higher education (as  
2 defined in section 101(a) of the Higher Edu-  
3 cation Act of 1965. (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)); or

4 (G) any other entity as determined appro-  
5 priate by the Secretary.

6 (2) HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED FARMERS,  
7 PRODUCERS, OR RANCHERS.—The term “historically  
8 underserved farmers, producers, or ranchers” means  
9 farmers, producers, or ranchers who engage in  
10 urban agriculture and who are—

11 (A) beginning farmers, producers, or  
12 ranchers;

13 (B) limited resource beginning farmers,  
14 producers, or ranchers (as defined by the Sec-  
15 retary); or

16 (C) socially disadvantaged farmers or  
17 ranchers (as such term is defined in section  
18 2501(e) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation,  
19 and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279(e)).

20 (3) HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED COMMU-  
21 NITY.—The term “historically underserved commu-  
22 nity” means a community—

23 (A) comprised of at-risk populations (as  
24 defined by the Secretary), such as historically  
25 underserved farmers, producers, or ranchers,

1 the economically disadvantaged, racial and eth-  
2 nic minorities, the uninsured, low-income chil-  
3 dren, the elderly, the homeless, and individuals  
4 with chronic health conditions, including severe  
5 mental illness;

6 (B) with a high rate of obesity and obesity-  
7 related disease; or

8 (C) with few or no grocery stores or other  
9 retail food establishments.

10 (4) UNDERUTILIZED TRACT OF LAND.—The  
11 term “underutilized tract of land” means a tract of  
12 land that is not utilized fully (as determined by the  
13 Secretary in consultation with the Governor of the  
14 State involved and the local governmental entity in-  
15 volved), including a tract of land—

16 (A) that is undeveloped, or where only a  
17 percentage of the land is developed;

18 (B) in the case of public land, land with  
19 low or decreasing public use; or

20 (C) with unused recreation facilities.

21 (5) VACANT LOT.—The term “vacant lot”  
22 means a tract of land without buildings.

23 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
24 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section

1 \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2018 and each fiscal year  
2 thereafter.

3 **SEC. 5. URBAN AGRICULTURE LIAISON.**

4 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary of Agriculture  
5 shall establish in the Department of Agriculture the posi-  
6 tion of Urban Agricultural Liaison.

7 (b) DUTIES.—The Urban Agricultural Liaison  
8 shall—

9 (1) establish and administer the urban agri-  
10 culture outreach program established under section  
11 4;

12 (2) establish and administer an information  
13 clearinghouse on urban agriculture;

14 (3) consult with public and private groups, in-  
15 cluding research institutions and urban botanical  
16 gardens, on how to enhance urban agriculture; and

17 (4) provide technical assistance to urban farm-  
18 ers, producers, and ranchers to assist such farmers,  
19 producers, and ranchers—

20 (A) in identifying appropriate land, space,  
21 or buildings for lease or purchase;

22 (B) in preparing loan applications, identi-  
23 fying appropriate funding sources, and by con-  
24 necting such farmers, producers, and ranchers

1 with loan officers and other appropriate per-  
2 sonnel;

3 (C) in connecting to the network of farm-  
4 ers' markets throughout the United States;

5 (D) in forming partnerships with grocers;

6 (E) in diversifying the marketing plans of  
7 the farmers', producers', or ranchers' products  
8 by encouraging the formation of community-  
9 supported agriculture groups and direct whole-  
10 sale opportunities;

11 (F) in using unconventional farming prac-  
12 tices, such as greenhouses, raised beds, hydro-  
13 ponics, aeroponics, aquaculture, vertical farm-  
14 ing, and hoop houses;

15 (G) in understanding and applying plant  
16 science, soil science, engineering, material and  
17 energy science, and computer control systems;

18 (H) by providing for business development  
19 (including businesses engaged in processing  
20 food), organizing appropriate structure, and  
21 management activities, including professional  
22 development activities;

23 (I) with understanding and navigating mu-  
24 nicipal laws, regulations, ordinances, and poli-  
25 cies with respect to obtaining permits, zoning,

1 water access, licences, and registration, and  
2 with registering the farming business of such  
3 farmers, producers, or ranchers and satisfying  
4 any legal requirements applicable to such reg-  
5 istration; and

6 (J) in establishing relationships with a  
7 wide range of field partners and in finding re-  
8 sources to assist such farmers, producers, or  
9 ranchers achieve efficient and viable food pro-  
10 duction;

11 (5) provide information to urban farmers, pro-  
12 ducers, and ranchers about, and connect urban  
13 farmers, producers, and ranchers with, beginning  
14 farmer training and agricultural vocational and re-  
15 habilitation programs;

16 (6) provide information to urban farmers, pro-  
17 ducers, and ranchers concerning the availability of,  
18 and eligibility requirements for, participation in agri-  
19 cultural programs, with particular emphasis on be-  
20 ginning farmer and rancher programs;

21 (7) serve as a resource for assisting urban  
22 farmers, producers, and ranchers, and potential  
23 urban farmers, producers, and ranchers, in applying  
24 for participation in agricultural programs; and

1           (8) advocate on behalf of urban farmers, pro-  
2           ducers, and ranchers in interactions with employees  
3           of the Department of Agriculture.

4           (c) **CONTRACTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.**—  
5 For purposes of carrying out the duties under subsection  
6 (b), the Urban Agricultural Liaison may enter into con-  
7 tracts or cooperative agreements with research centers of  
8 the Agricultural Research Service, institutions of higher  
9 education (as defined in section 101 of the Higher Edu-  
10 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)), or nonprofit organi-  
11 zations to—

12           (1) conduct regional research on the profit-  
13           ability of small farms;

14           (2) develop educational materials;

15           (3) conduct workshops, courses, and certified  
16           vocational training;

17           (4) conduct mentoring activities; or

18           (5) provide internship opportunities.

19 **SEC. 6. URBAN AGRICULTURE RESEARCH INITIATIVE.**

20           (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall award grants,  
21 on a competitive basis, for scientific and community-based  
22 participatory research on—

23           (1) promoting and enhancing urban agriculture;

24           (2) improving production efficiency and profit-  
25           ability of urban agriculture production;

1           (3) marketing urban agriculture innovations  
2           and technologies;

3           (4) methods to protect crops and agricultural  
4           products in urban areas from pests and disease;

5           (5) methods to enhance food safety related to  
6           urban agriculture production;

7           (6) methods to encourage advancements in ma-  
8           terial and energy science and engineering; and

9           (7) other research areas the Secretary deter-  
10          mines are appropriate.

11          (b) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this sec-  
12          tion, the Secretary shall give a preference to an eligible  
13          entity seeking a grant for outreach activities to be carried  
14          out in a historically underserved community (as such term  
15          is defined in section 4(d)).

16          (c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than one year  
17          after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary  
18          shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House  
19          of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nu-  
20          trition, and Forestry of the Senate, and make publicly  
21          available on the website of the Department of Agriculture,  
22          a report summarizing the research conducted under sub-  
23          section (a).

24          (d) FUNDING.—Of the funds of the Commodity Cred-  
25          it Corporation, the Secretary shall make available to carry

1 out this section \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018  
2 through 2022.

3 **SEC. 7. AGRICULTURE PROGRAMS.**

4 (a) FARMERS' MARKET LOAN AND LOAN GUARAN-  
5 TEES.—The Farmer-to-Consumer Direct Marketing Act  
6 of 1976 (7 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) is amended—

7 (1) by redesignating section 7 as section 8; and

8 (2) by inserting after section 6 the following  
9 new section:

10 **“SEC. 7. FARMERS' MARKET LOANS AND LOAN GUARAN-**  
11 **TEES.**

12 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, acting  
13 through the Administrator of the Farm Service Agency,  
14 shall carry out a program to make loans and loan guaran-  
15 tees to eligible entities for projects or activities to estab-  
16 lish, expand, and promote direct producer-to-consumer  
17 marketing and assist in the development of local food busi-  
18 ness enterprises by such entities, including—

19 “(1) projects for the construction of new farm-  
20 ers' markets;

21 “(2) projects for the improvement or rehabilita-  
22 tion of existing farmers' markets;

23 “(3) projects for the acquisition of equipment  
24 for farmers' markets and other infrastructure needs;

1           “(4) projects for the purchase, acquisition, and  
2           rehabilitation of land or property for use as a farm-  
3           ers’ market;

4           “(5) transportation and delivery activities;

5           “(6) activities carried out through agri-tourism  
6           initiatives; and

7           “(7) projects, including planning and feasibility  
8           initiatives for the expansion or establishment of  
9           farmers’ markets designed to increase sales in areas  
10          not easily accessible through traditional transpor-  
11          tation activities.

12          “(b) PROGRAM PURPOSES.—The purposes of the pro-  
13          gram established under subsection (a) are to increase do-  
14          mestic consumption of and access to locally and regionally  
15          produced agricultural products, and to develop new mar-  
16          ket opportunities for farm and ranch operations serving  
17          local markets, by developing, improving, expanding, and  
18          providing outreach, training, and technical assistance to,  
19          or assisting in the development, improvement and expan-  
20          sion of—

21                 “(1) domestic farmers’ markets, roadside  
22                 stands, community-supported agriculture programs,  
23                 agritourism activities, and other direct producer-to-  
24                 consumer market opportunities; and

1           “(2) local and regional food business enter-  
2           prises (including those that are not direct producer-  
3           to-consumer markets) that process, distribute, ag-  
4           gregate, or store locally or regionally produced food  
5           products.

6           “(c) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity seeking a loan  
7           or loan guarantee under this section shall submit to the  
8           Secretary an application at such time and in such manner  
9           and containing such information as the Secretary may re-  
10          quire, including documentation demonstrating the finan-  
11          cial need of the entity.

12          “(d) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—An entity shall be eligible  
13          to receive a loan or loan guarantee under this section if  
14          the entity is—

15               “(1) an agricultural cooperative or other agri-  
16               cultural business entity or a producer network or as-  
17               sociation, including a community supported agri-  
18               culture network or association;

19               “(2) a local government;

20               “(3) a nonprofit corporation;

21               “(4) a public benefit corporation;

22               “(5) an economic development corporation;

23               “(6) a regional farmers’ market authority; or

24               “(7) such other entity as the Secretary may  
25          designate.

1           “(e) CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES.—The Secretary  
2 shall establish criteria and guidelines for the submission,  
3 evaluation, and funding of proposed projects under this  
4 section.

5           “(f) PRIORITIES.—In providing loans or loan guaran-  
6 tees under this section, priority shall be given to applica-  
7 tions that include projects or activities that benefit under-  
8 served communities, including communities that—

9                   “(1) are located in—

10                           “(A) an urban area (as defined in section  
11                           2 of the Urban Agriculture Production Act of  
12                           2017); or

13                           “(B) an area of concentrated poverty with  
14                           limited access to fresh locally or regionally  
15                           grown foods; and

16                           “(2) have not received benefits pursuant to a  
17                           loan or loan guarantee in the recent past.

18           “(g) LOAN INTEREST RATE; DURATION.—

19                   “(1) INTEREST RATE.—The interest rate on a  
20                   loan under this section (other than a loan guarantee  
21                   under this section) shall be as determined by the  
22                   Secretary, acting through the Administrator of the  
23                   Farm Service Agency, but not less than such rate as  
24                   determined by the Secretary of the Treasury taking  
25                   into consideration the current average market yield

1 on outstanding marketable obligations of the United  
2 States with remaining periods to maturity com-  
3 parable to the maturities of such loan, as determined  
4 by the Secretary of the Treasury on the date the  
5 loan is made.

6 “(2) DURATION.—The interest rate for each  
7 loan under this section shall remain in effect for the  
8 term of the loan.

9 “(h) CONDITION.—As a condition of receiving a loan  
10 or loan guarantee under this section, a recipient of such  
11 a loan or loan guarantee shall certify that the recipient  
12 will reserve, for the sale of locally produced food products  
13 (as determined by the Secretary) produced by farmers,  
14 producers, ranchers, or aquaculture, mariculture, or fish-  
15 eries operators, or by associations of farmers, producers,  
16 ranchers, or those operators, not less than 50 percent of  
17 the floor area of a farmers’ market—

18 “(1) that is operated or facilitated by the recipi-  
19 ent; and

20 “(2) with respect to which loan funds will be  
21 used.

22 “(i) FUNDING.—Of the funds of the Commodity  
23 Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out  
24 this section \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018  
25 through 2022.”.

1 (b) EXTENSION OF FUNDING FOR FARMERS' MAR-  
2 KET PROMOTION PROGRAM.—Subsection (g) of section 6  
3 of the Farmer-to-Consumer Direct Marketing Act of 1976  
4 (7 U.S.C. 3005) is amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (1)—

6 (A) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
7 “and” at the end;

8 (B) in subparagraph (D), by striking  
9 “2018.” and inserting “2017; and”; and

10 (C) by adding at the end the following new  
11 subparagraph:

12 “(E) \$40,000,000 for each of fiscal years  
13 2018 through 2022.”; and

14 (2) in paragraph (5)—

15 (A) in the heading, by inserting “TECH-  
16 NICAL ASSISTANCE AND” before “ADMINISTRA-  
17 TIVE EXPENSES”; and

18 (B) by inserting “to provide technical as-  
19 sistance or” before “for administrative ex-  
20 penses”.

21 (c) EXTENSION OF, EXPANSION OF, AND ADDI-  
22 TIONAL FUNDING FOR, SENIORS FARMERS' MARKET NU-  
23 TRITION PROGRAM.—

24 (1) EXTENSION OF PROGRAM.—Section 4402(a)  
25 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of

1       2002 (7 U.S.C. 3007(a)) is amended to read as fol-  
2       lows:

3       “(a) FUNDING.—

4               “(1) MANDATORY FUNDING.—Of the funds of  
5       the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary  
6       shall make available to carry out and expand a sen-  
7       iors and veterans farmers’ market nutrition program  
8       at least \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018  
9       through 2022.

10              “(2) DISCRETIONARY FUNDING.—There are au-  
11       thorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
12       \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018 through  
13       2022.

14              “(3) USE OF FUNDS.—Of the funds made avail-  
15       able to carry out this section for a fiscal year—

16                      “(A) 70 percent of the funds shall be used  
17       for the benefit of program recipients who are  
18       low-income seniors; and

19                      “(B) 30 percent of the funds shall be used  
20       for the benefit of program recipients who are  
21       low-income veterans.”.

22              (2) PURPOSES.—Section 4402(b)(1) of the  
23       Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7  
24       U.S.C. 3007(b)(1)) is amended—

1 (A) by inserting “, minimally processed”  
2 after “unprepared”; and

3 (B) by inserting “and low-income vet-  
4 erans” after “low-income seniors”.

5 (3) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS; UNEXPENDED  
6 FUNDS.—Section 4402 of the Farm Security and  
7 Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 3007) is  
8 amended by adding at the end the following:

9 “(g) UNEXPENDED FUNDS.—To the extent the funds  
10 made available under subsection (a) for a fiscal year are  
11 not expended in that fiscal year, the Secretary shall use  
12 such funds in a subsequent fiscal year for the same pur-  
13 pose.

14 “(h) PRIORITIES.—In providing funds made available  
15 under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to  
16 farmers’ markets that have an operational seniors and vet-  
17 erans farmers’ market program and to seniors and vet-  
18 erans farmers’ market programs in historically under-  
19 served communities as defined in section 4(d) of the  
20 Urban Agriculture Production Act of 2017.

21 “(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

22 “(1) LOW-INCOME.—The term ‘low income’  
23 shall have the meaning determined by the Secretary  
24 and shall be applied equally with respect to seniors  
25 and veterans.

1           “(2) MINIMALLY PROCESSED.—The term ‘mini-  
2           mally processed’ means, with respect to a product,  
3           processing that does not fundamentally alter such  
4           product.

5           “(3) VETERAN.—The term ‘veteran’ means an  
6           individual who has served in the Armed Forces (as  
7           defined in section 101(10) of title 38 United States  
8           Code).”.

9           (4) EXPANSION TO INCLUDE VETERANS.—Sec-  
10          tion 4402 of the Farm Security and Rural Invest-  
11          ment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 3007) is amended by  
12          inserting “and veterans” after “seniors” each place  
13          it appears in the section heading and in subsections  
14          (b), (c), (d), and (f).

15          (d) COMMUNITY FOOD PROJECTS.—Section 25 of the  
16          Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2034) is  
17          amended—

18                 (1) by amending subsection (a)(1) to read as  
19                 follows:

20                 “(1) COMMUNITY FOOD PROJECT.—The term  
21                 ‘community food project’ means a community-based  
22                 project that is designed—

23                         “(A) to—

24                                 “(i) meet the food needs of low-in-  
25                                 come individuals through food distribution,

1 community outreach to assist in participa-  
2 tion in nutrition programs that receive  
3 Federal funding, or improving access to  
4 food as part of a comprehensive service;

5 “(ii) increase the self-reliance of com-  
6 munities in providing for the food needs of  
7 the communities; and

8 “(iii) promote comprehensive re-  
9 sponses to local food, food access, farm,  
10 and nutrition issues; or

11 “(B) to meet specific State, local, or neigh-  
12 borhood food and agricultural needs, including  
13 needs relating to—

14 “(i) equipment necessary for the effi-  
15 cient operation of a project;

16 “(ii) planning for long-term solutions;  
17 or

18 “(iii) the creation of innovative mar-  
19 keting activities that mutually benefit agri-  
20 cultural producers and low-income con-  
21 sumers.”; and

22 (2) in subsection (b)(2)(C), by striking  
23 “\$9,000,000” and inserting “\$10,000,000”.

24 (e) COMMUNITY FACILITIES DIRECT LOAN AND  
25 GRANT PROGRAM.—With respect to the community facili-

1 ties direct loan and grant program, the Secretary shall in-  
2 clude urban farmers, producers, or ranchers as eligible en-  
3 tities for purposes of—

4 (1) loans under subpart A of part 1942 of title  
5 7, Code of Federal Regulations; and

6 (2) grants under subpart B of part 3570 of  
7 title 7, Code of Federal Regulations.

8 **SEC. 8. IMPROVING AGRICULTURAL REPORTING.**

9 (a) **EVALUATION OF FARMERS' MARKETS IN CENSUS**  
10 **OF AGRICULTURE.**—Section 2(a) of the Census of Agri-  
11 culture Act of 1997 (7 U.S.C. 2204g(a)) is amended by  
12 adding at the end the following new paragraph:

13 “(3) **INCLUSION OF FARMERS' MARKETS.**—Ef-  
14 fective beginning with the first census of agriculture  
15 conducted after the date of the enactment of this  
16 paragraph, the Secretary shall include as part of  
17 each census of agriculture—

18 “(A) an evaluation of the state of farmers’  
19 markets in the United States, including infor-  
20 mation regarding the size, location, operational  
21 capacity, and geographic dispersion of farmers’  
22 markets and types of food products sold (both  
23 in terms of product diversity and sales loca-  
24 tions) through farmers’ markets; and

1                   “(B) an analysis of the economic impact of  
2                   farmers’ markets, including the success of Fed-  
3                   eral programs in promoting and supporting  
4                   farmers’ markets.”.

5           (b) COORDINATED ANNUAL REPORT ON FARMERS’  
6   MARKETS.—Beginning on the date that is 90 days after  
7   the date of the enactment of this Act and each year there-  
8   after, the Secretary shall submit to Congress and publish  
9   on the website of the Department of Agriculture a report  
10   on the status of farmers’ markets in the United States.  
11   Such report shall include with respect to farmers’ markets  
12   in the United States for each year, the following informa-  
13   tion:

14                   (1) The number of farmers’ markets.

15                   (2) The number of farmers’ markets established  
16                   during such year except that for the first year a re-  
17                   port is submitted under this section, the report shall  
18                   include the number of farmers’ markets for the five  
19                   years immediately preceding the first reporting year.

20                   (3) The economic value of an average farmers’  
21                   market.

22                   (4) The type of governmental assistance pro-  
23                   vided to farmers’ markets.

24                   (5) The products that are typically sold at  
25                   farmers’ markets.

1           (6) The number of farmers' markets that ac-  
2           cept as a form of payment benefits distributed  
3           through—

4                   (A) the supplemental nutrition assistance  
5                   program established under the Food and Nutri-  
6                   tion Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);

7                   (B) the seniors farmers' market nutrition  
8                   program established under section 4402 of the  
9                   Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of  
10                  2002 (7 U.S.C. 3007);

11                  (C) the special supplemental nutrition pro-  
12                  gram for women, infants, and children estab-  
13                  lished under section 17 of the Child Nutrition  
14                  Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786); and

15                  (D) any other Federal or State nutrition  
16                  assistance program as determined appropriate  
17                  by the Secretary.

18           (7) The methods through which farmers' mar-  
19           kets process the forms of payment described in para-  
20           graph (6).

21           (8) The average income of a farmers' market  
22           operator.

23           (9) The average profit of a farmers' market op-  
24           erator.

1           (10) The average expenses incurred by a farm-  
2           ers' market operator.

3           (11) Other occupations of operators of farmers'  
4           markets.

5           (12) The percentage of food sold or offered for  
6           sale at farmers' markets that is locally produced.

7           (13) Any other information related to farmers'  
8           markets in the United States that the Secretary de-  
9           termines is important to promote and enhance the  
10          use of farmers' markets in the United States.

11          (c) REPORT ON STATUS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUC-  
12          TION IN AND AROUND URBAN AREAS.—Not later than  
13          one year after the date of the enactment of this Act and  
14          not later than 90 days after the end of each fiscal year  
15          thereafter, the Secretary shall submit a report to Congress  
16          (and make such report publicly available electronically) on  
17          the status of urban agriculture. The report shall include—

18                (1) with respect to urban agriculture, informa-  
19                tion on—

20                    (A) the percentage and economic value of  
21                    urban agriculture production;

22                    (B) the most popular type of agricultural  
23                    activity in which individuals are engaged in  
24                    such production;

1 (C) the most recent best practices for such  
2 production;

3 (D) the type of agricultural products mar-  
4 keted and sold through such production; and

5 (E) the progress made toward strength-  
6 ening local food systems in carrying out such  
7 production;

8 (2) an analysis of local government regulations,  
9 including zoning, that have supported or could sup-  
10 port sustainable urban agriculture; and

11 (3) recommendations on how to further urban  
12 agriculture.

13 (d) PERFORMANCE GOALS.—The Secretary shall in-  
14 corporate promoting and enhancing urban agriculture into  
15 the Department of Agriculture performance goals estab-  
16 lished in the agency performance plan under section 1115  
17 of title 31, United States Code, and updated in accordance  
18 with section 1116 of such title.

19 **SEC. 9. STUDY AND REPORT.**

20 (a) STUDY.—Not later than 90 days after the date  
21 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary and the Sec-  
22 retary of Energy shall enter into an agreement with the  
23 National Academy of Sciences to conduct a study of tech-  
24 nologies to advance urban agricultural including tech-

1 nologies that increase input efficiency, reduce costs, and  
2 ensure food safety.

3 (b) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the com-  
4 pletion of the study required under subsection (a), the Sec-  
5 retary shall submit a report to Congress summarizing the  
6 findings of such study.