

S 837

Beginning Farmer and Rancher Opportunity Act of 2013

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Apr 25, 2013

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. (Apr 25, 2013)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/837

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Harkin, Tom [D-IA]

Party: Democratic • State: IA • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (13 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Apr 25, 2013
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Apr 25, 2013
Sen. Franken, Al [D-MN]	D · MN		Apr 25, 2013
Sen. Johnson, Tim [D-SD]	D · SD		Apr 25, 2013
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Apr 25, 2013
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Apr 25, 2013
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Apr 25, 2013
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Apr 25, 2013
Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]	D · NM		Apr 25, 2013
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		May 8, 2013
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		May 9, 2013
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		May 22, 2013
Sen. King, Angus S., Jr. [I-ME]	I · ME		May 22, 2013

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	Apr 25, 2013

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HR 1727	Related bill	Apr 25, 2013: Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

Summary (as of Apr 25, 2013)

Beginning Farmer and Rancher Opportunity Act of 2013 - Amends the Food Security Act of 1985 to extend: (1) the conservation reserve and related programs, and (2) assistance to disadvantaged or beginning farmers or ranchers for access to the environmental quality incentives and the conservation stewardship programs.

Permits conservation reserve contract modification to facilitate transfers from retiring owners to limited resource farmers or ranchers.

Amends the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to: (1) reduce the number of operating years required for a beginning farmer or rancher to qualify for a direct real estate loan; (2) extend conservation loan and loan guarantee authority, and reserve specified amounts for beginning farmers and ranchers; (3) extend the beginning farmer and rancher individual development accounts pilot program; (4) authorize micro loans for beginning farmers or ranchers; and (5) make the direct operating loan set-aside for beginning farmers and ranchers permanent.

Amends the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 to extend the value-added agricultural product market development grant program.

Amends the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to extend the beginning farmer and rancher development program. Provides assistance for agricultural rehabilitation and vocational training for veterans.

Amends the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act to extend the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative. Provides priority assistance for new farming opportunities, including young, beginning, socially disadvantaged, and immigrant issues, as well as farm entry, transition, and transfer issues.

Amends the Federal Crop Insurance Act to provide for risk management programs targeted at beginning, socially disadvantaged, transitioning, or legal immigrant farmers and ranchers.

Amends the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to establish in the Department of Agriculture (USDA) the position of Military Veterans Agricultural Liaison.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 25, 2013:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 25, 2013:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S3038-3039)
- **Apr 25, 2013:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.